

Welcome to another edition of Broadsheet outlining the work being done in Nelson Marlborough District Health Board.

Nutrition and Physical Activity (NPA)

Last year saw the NPA programme mature, grow and become firmly established in the district.

The programme's grants scheme was launched to encourage and support schools, early childhood centres and community groups to undertake sustainable nutrition and physical activity initiatives. To date, more than \$115,000 worth of projects and initiatives have been funded across the district.

Organic food gardens, ethnic soccer festivals and nutrition support groups are some of the great projects expected this year from the last funding round, which included new 'mini-contracts' for more significant community group projects as well as one-off grants.

A coordinator for schools and early childhood has been appointed to assist communities to access the services that operate within the health related sectors, and strengthen partnerships with homes and schools. The coordinator will also work with schools to implement the Food and Beverage Classification System.

Immunisation

Together the Primary Health Organisations (PHOs) and the DHB are making a concerted effort across the district to meet the National Health Target for immunisation, by aligning GP initiatives through the District Immunisation Steering Group.

This target sets out to reach 95% coverage for two-year olds in Nelson Marlborough, over the next four years or sooner.

Golden Bay Integrated Health Services Project

The DHB has met with key stakeholders of the Golden Bay Integrated Health Service Project to discuss the community led, integrated health services.

The DHB has indicated that, while it will not fund a new building it remains very strongly committed to the provision of health services in Golden Bay through funding community hospital services and significant operational funding and professional support. The PHO and Joan Whiting Memorial Trust also expressed strong commitment to the model.

The next step is to get a reaffirmed commitment from Golden Bay GPs and appointment of an interim manager to establish the organisation. The DHB has agreed to work with the PHO to develop the role and to fund the PHO to employ the position for six months.

Associate Ministers Appointed

Health Minister David Cunliffe has allocated specific tasks to each of the five Associate Health Ministers, giving them a wide scope for action that includes; liaison with DHBs, Fruit in Schools, Healthy Eating Healthy Action, tobacco control, drug policy and sexual health. Hon Damien O'Connor is one of the Associate Ministers with a portfolio area that includes aspects covered by our NPA programme as well as liaison with Nelson Marlborough DHB.

Maori Health

Consultation on the Maori Health and Disability Strategic Framework continues until 28 March. This framework is based on a 30 year vision to improve Maori health outcomes in the district based on Maori Community, Participation, Effective Services and Intersectoral Activity. Consultation documents are available on www.nmdhb.govt.nz

Listen to District Health Scene on Fresh FM Wednesday 5.40pm and Saturday 11.40am
Nelson/Tasman 99.4, Eastern Golden Bay 95.2, Nelson City 95.4 and Blenheim on 89.2.

Energy Savings

Since 2006, when the Land Fill Gas boiler at Nelson Hospital was installed, coal use has fallen significantly. This boiler uses methane gas from the York Valley Landfill to heat water for Nelson Hospital. Coal consumption has been affected as follows:

2003 annual consumption 3,358 tonnes

2004 annual consumption 3,669 tonnes

2005 annual consumption 3,409 tonnes

2006 annual consumption 2,854 tonnes

2007 annual consumption 1,890 tonnes

This means the Land Fill Gas boiler now generates an impressive average of 48% of the total steam required for the Nelson Hospital site.

Board Advisory Committees

The members of the Board Advisory Committees have been finalised, as below:

Community and Public Health Advisory Committee (CPHAC):

John Moore, Liz Richards, Jenny Black, Judy Crowe, Joe Puketapu,
Judith Holmes and Lorraine McMath.

Disability Support Advisory Committee (DiSAC):

Sharon Brinsdon, Graeme Faulkner, Judi Billens, Viveyan Weke, Kim
Robinson, George Truman and Glenys MacLellan.

Hospital Advisory Committee (HAC):

Lynette Jones, Joe Puketapu, Ian MacLennan, Suzanne Win, Graeme
Grennell, Janet Kelly and Jo Mickleson.

Motueka Hospital

On Sunday, 17 February a ceremony was held to "turn the first sod" at Friends of Motueka Hospital's new facility adjacent to the existing Motueka Hospital. This signalled a major move forward in the community's efforts to establish all the services in a community trust. Eventually the Friends of Motueka Hospital Trust will take responsibility for the operation of the hospital (through DHB funding), and will lease the land and purchase existing buildings as well.

Conflicts of Interest

In Nelson Marlborough DHB Board members and staff are required to register possible interests that may arise between the DHB and themselves, or a parent, child, spouse or partner.

For Board members this is a requirement under the NZ Public Health and Disability Act. These are lodged firstly with the Ministry of Health as part of the election or appointment process and then with the DHB when Board members take up their role.

The DHB has a comprehensive guideline for use when considering whether a member has a conflict of interest. Any possible conflicts for senior managers are handled in the same way.

Interests are then reviewed at each Board meeting before the Open and the Public Excluded sessions to allow and encourage potential conflicts to be raised. Where a possible conflict arises from a matter being considered the rest of the members decide whether that person remains in the meeting while the item is discussed and if that person will have the right to speak to or vote on the issue.

Meetings

District Health Board

Nelson

10am Tuesday

8 April 2008

Disability

Support Advisory Committee

Blenheim

12 noon Tuesday

22 April 2008

Community

and Public Health Advisory Committee

Nelson

1pm Tuesday

29 April 2008

Hospital Advisory Committee

Nelson

1pm Tuesday

25 March 2008

and 1pm Nelson
6 May