
MEMO

To: Board Members
From: Jenny Black, Chair
Date: 21 March 2018
Subject: **Chair's Report**

Status

This report contains:

- ✓ For decision
- ✓ Update
- ✓ Regular report
- For information

Quarterly National Chairs and CEs meeting

- Discussion was held regarding Health Workforce. In the future our workforce will be very different; it will be more diverse as our community will be, there will need to be a closing of the gap between high and low pay, we will need to recognise the effect of contracting services out. Does that bring about a lower paid workforce and if so, does that make us a good corporate citizen? Many issues to think about plus the fact that our large work groups, ie nurses and junior doctors are in the middle of negotiations and this will have consequences for us, no matter which way they vote
- We learnt of the new Pharmacy contract effecting community pharmacies. This work has been challenging and it will be imperative that each DHB now works alongside local providers to implement the new contract.
- Primary healthcare was a large item in the Labour Party manifesto and there is a strong commitment to see the various pieces of it put in place. Several DHB CEs are taking leadership roles in this work; looking at the consequences of implementation, the complexity of the negotiations required within primary care businesses and what needs to be in place before roll out. This has the ability to change how and when people access primary care but there is a lot to think about before this can be put in place.
- We heard from Ron Paterson, Chairman of the Mental Health Review Committee. They will be visiting each DHB to hear from consumers and staff about the opportunities and challenges. Also, how do we hear from those with no voice? They are due to report to the Minister in October.
- We were visited by the Minister of Health, Dr David Clark, and also the Associate Minister of Health, Julianne Genter. The Minister encouraged us to be bold but not stupid! Do things differently with a 4-5 year view. We await his Letter of Expectation, the Planning and Funding advice. Minister Genter asked us to consider climate change and initiatives that we can incorporate into our infrastructure and procurement planning; again suggesting that we should be taking a slightly longer term view rather than always the more short term cost effective one. She was also very keen to hear more about what we are doing in the prevention space about exercise and healthy environments.
- Our next visitor was Karen Poutasi from the Ministerial Advisory Group. This group has been tasked with advising the Minister and supporting the Ministry of Health to look at the 5-6 year horizon and how we would expect Health to have progressed. The 2016 refreshed Health Strategy, a new incoming Director General, what

systems and people will we need to progress. This group will be meeting with DHBs at a regional level in the first instance.

- The mini AGM of New Zealand Health Partnerships – the NM Board had been asked to reappoint directors for future years. The National Chairs meeting voted to roll the appointments until the full AGM in September to allow for more work to be done on the skills required of the Board and to review the constitution of the organisation.

This was one of the better quarterly meetings I have attended. The right people were in the room, discussing and listening and hopefully moving issues forward that will bring about change in how we do things. The new administration, and the changes in leadership, are providing a new energy, which I am sure the health of the population will benefit from.

Dying Well Workshop

The Dying Well workshop was a great success. Again, it was getting the right people in the room, with the right presentations to stimulate everyone to think that next step. I am sure there will be many outcomes from the time together, and these will need to be prioritised and resources found to ensure we provide the environment we want, ie one where our population can have a meaningful conversation about how they would like to spend their last days.

We are very lucky to have many people on the staff of NMH who are educated and passionate about this work, and as a Board we need to support them. The fact that the workshop eventuated was a great start to that working together, strategically and operationally. I look forward to hearing about progress in this topic.

Jenny Black
Chair

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT THE CHAIR'S REPORT BE RECEIVED.