

**Public Health Advisory Committee**  
**Te Rōpū Tohutohu i te Hauora Tūmatanui**

(Sub-Committee of the National Advisory Committee on Health and Disability)

**Minutes of the teleconference held on Monday 19 September, 2005**

**Present:** Geoff Fougere (Chair)  
Robert Logan  
Andrew Moore  
Lynette Stewart

**In attendance:** Margaret Earle, Manager  
Barbara Langford, Senior Advisor, Public Health  
Charmaine Ross, Senior Analyst, Māori Health  
Diana Cookson, Analyst

**Apologies** Riripeti Haretuku, Phil Shoemack, Neil Pearce

**Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes – confirmed as read.

**Matters arising**

Nil

**Correspondence**

Nil

**Tabled papers**

Draft questions for stakeholders

**Agenda Item 6.1: Public Health Overview**

The project sponsor and manager summarised the project to date. The draft report has had a structural change with some good practice examples included. Some key stakeholder meetings have been set up.

Discussion included the following:

- Public health as a crucial complement to personal health
- Awareness of the report's audience
- Flexibility of public health to respond rapidly and with innovation is very important
- Articulation of the problems that can be addressed will make the report compelling
- Good practice examples of response to the wider determinants of health with health outcomes evidence where possible eg healthy housing project
- Need for development of ideas around trust and co-operation – implications of contracting model
- Types of leadership required for public health action

Action points:

Secretariat to:

- revise the report in the light of the discussion
- set up more stakeholder meetings.

**Agenda item 6.2 Children’s Health**

The meeting focused on the scoping options paper, which posed a series of questions, informed by the experts’ meeting.

The committee agreed the following:

The project will:

- use a variety of frameworks (eg, human rights, children as the future, child centred etc) with a focus on what was needed for children to live “an ordinary life”
- give an overview of a range of factors influencing child health with case studies focusing on single factors
- address the collection of information at all levels to enable monitoring, and lines of accountability for child health outcomes
- cover a broad age range with a life course perspective, but ‘zooming in’ on particular age groups including early childhood
- focus on Māori and disabled children as case studies in a context of what is needed for children to reach their full potential.

The overarching study question will be “how do we grow well children and allow them to reach their full potential?” This question could be put to a children’s reference group.

The committee agreed that work on the innovative international child health initiatives is useful, but cautioned against turning this work into a large search.

**Action points:**

- Complete a preliminary scoping paper that summarises recommendations agreed upon today by the PHAC and suggests a way forward for the project.

**Agenda item 6.3 Health Impact Assessment**

The project manager updated the members on progress, including the re-establishment of the HIA external reference group. The first meeting of the newly constituted group will be 13 October.

**Next meeting: Monday 17 October 2-6pm in Wellington**

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

..... (Chair) Date.....