



Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19 Feb 2007 2pm – 6pm

Present: Geoff Fougere (Chair)
Robin Kearns
Riripeti Haretuku
Phil Shoemack
Neil Pearce
Lynette Stewart
Linda Holloway

In attendance: Margaret Earle, Manager, NHC
Barbara Langford, Senior Policy Analyst, Public Health
Charmaine Ross, Senior Policy Analyst, Māori Health
Liz Hirst, Senior Policy Analyst, Māori Health
Diana Cookson, Analyst

Apologies Riripeti Haretuku (lateness)
Lynette Stewart (lateness)

Tabled Papers

Child Health Summary

Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes – confirmed as read.

Welcome to new member

The Chair warmly welcomed new NHC member, Robin Kearns.

Matters arising

Public Health Bill – Determination to introduce to Parliament this year.

Current Public Health issues - Agreed to continue practice of opening meetings with informal discussion of current public health issues.

Agenda Item 6.1: Health Impact Assessment

- the launch of the public report on Health Impact Assessment (*An Idea whose Time Has Come*), to be held on March 2 at Local Government New Zealand. Speakers will be Geoff Fougere, Lynette Stewart, Mark Jacobs, Hon Pete Hodgson and Maaka Tibble (karakia and mihi).
- Ministry update – currently recruiting 2 senior appointments for the HIA Support Unit. The secretariat has been involved in meeting with PHD

and SPARC to set goals and objectives for the HIA Mission On objective.

- Social Policy Research and Evaluation Conference – the Chair will present a paper at this conference on PHAC's HIA work
- HIA entry into Health Innovation Awards was unsuccessful.

Actions:

- Secretariat to approach Senior Leadership Team of PHD to set up a meeting with PHAC.

Agenda item 7.2: Child Health and Wellbeing

A meeting had been held with Liz Craig who is developing a monitoring framework. Discussion focused on what the PHAC can add to this work and why is there no improvement in child health outcomes after a decade of reports.

Key discussion points:

- Strength of Liz Craig's work is that it is aimed at DHBs who are only one of the key actors. Gap in addressing national issues and accountabilities
- Attempts are being made at a monitoring regime through the Well Child Review and MSD's work. Should we endorse this work or is it adding to fragmentation? How to make accountability part of performance measurement
- Need for the PHAC report to include a comprehensive overview of child health in NZ. It would then describe what to do next and how to connect outcomes with action, including a monitoring framework.

Agreed:

- To complete paper on monitoring frameworks
- The monitoring frameworks paper and November paper on child health status to be developed further to include in the report to the Minister
- The regular discussion and updating of the working draft of the table of contents page for report to Minister; currently:
 1. State of child health in New Zealand (with strong focus on inequalities)
 2. Positive initiatives to improve child health and wellbeing (community, DHBs, central government)
 3. Monitoring frameworks
 4. Next steps – how to build in sustainability
- Final report to the Minister to include children's voices (in boxes throughout)
- Working title for project – "getting effective action for child health and wellbeing"
- A discussion document is circulated that includes first 3 chapters above.

Actions:

- Provisional table of contents to be reiterated at each meeting.

- Secretariat to continue work on monitoring section
- Secretariat and sponsors to develop a plan on how other sections to be developed
- Secretariat and sponsors to advise on how to include children's perspectives
- Secretariat to write first three chapters and circulate as discussion document.

Agenda item 7.3: The Urban Environment and Health

Discussion centred around the updated project profile and project sponsors. Some general suggestions were made for revision of the project profile.

Decisions

- Sponsors are Robin Kearns, Phil Shoemack, Lynette Stewart and Neil Pearce. Sponsors to decide who will be the principal sponsor
- To begin work on an evidence review and horizon scan
- Delay the conference until later in the year and hold regional workshops/hui first
- Project profile agreed subject to timelines being revised for the next meeting.

Agenda Item 8 General Business

8.1 The committee's purpose, roles and ways of working

The Manager introduced the discussion paper on how the committees can add value in a dynamic policy environment. Key discussion points included:

- Need for ways to address the influence other sectors have on health
- Speed of policy change as PHAC is developing its projects is an issue. This may be trying to respond to short term change rather than looking at the big picture and taking a long term view
- The Minister is interested in high level and tightly focused reports but maybe with a shorter term view
- The PHAC has worked in both of the above ways. Upstream focus means focussing on public policy across sectors
- Need to do things that nobody else is doing including the state of the nation's health.

Decisions

- To aim for a five-yearly report on the state of the nation's health, interspersed with other projects that may be at a high level or more tightly focused.

8.2 Recruitment update

- A temporary replacement for Barbara Langford has been arranged. Geoffrey Barnes will take the post for six months while Barbara is away. Geoff is a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health in the UK and has most recently worked in the UK Sustainable Development Commission.

Next meeting: Monday 19 March 2-6pm in Wellington

Note: No face to face meeting of PHAC to be held in April

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

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