

Briefing

Supporting Material for Primary and Community Healthcare Deep Dive

Date due to MO:	15 January 2024	Action required by:	N/A
Security level:	IN CONFIDENCE	Health Report number:	H2023033929
To:	Hon Dr Shane Reti, Minister of Health		
Consulted:	Health New Zealand: <input type="checkbox"/> Māori Health Authority: <input type="checkbox"/>		

Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
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Minister's office to complete:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Decline | <input type="checkbox"/> Noted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change | <input type="checkbox"/> Seen | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn | |

Comment:

Supporting Material for Primary and Community Healthcare Deep Dive

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE **Date:** 15 January 2023

To: Hon Dr Shane Reti, Minister of Health

Purpose of report

1. This report provides the material to support the primary and community healthcare deep dive discussion with officials.

Summary

2. You have indicated you would like a deep dive session on primary and community healthcare. This is scheduled for **Tuesday 16 January, 1.00 to 3.00pm**. Officials from The Ministry of Health | Manatū Hauora, Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora, and the Māori Health Authority | Te Aka Whai Ora will attend.
3. The Ministry of Health has provided you a briefing on the future of primary and community healthcare (H2023032867 refers). This set out the current state of the sector, the case for change, and sought your initial views on the future of the sector. This briefing is also attached at Appendix One. You will receive a separate briefing on primary and community healthcare from Health New Zealand.
4. The deep dive is an opportunity to discuss your both your short and long-term priorities for primary and community healthcare. The slide pack at Appendix Two reflects the key areas for discussion. The slide pack covers:
 - the key challenges in primary and community healthcare
 - the need to set a long-term direction for the sector
 - an overview of proposed areas to cover in a longer-term policy work programme and key questions to explore
 - options to phase a strategic work programme and areas you might wish to consider for shorter-term action

5. **s 9(2)(f)(iv)**
[Redacted text]

Recommendations

- a) **Discuss** primary and community healthcare with officials on 16 January 2023.
- b) **Note** that the slide pack for this meeting is attached as Appendix Two.
- c) **Indicate** whether you would like to receive advice in early 2024 on how local community voices and needs can be reflected in the design and delivery of primary and community healthcare. **Yes/No**



Maree Roberts

Acting Director-General of Health
Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora

Date: 15 January 2024

Hon Dr Shane Reti

Minister of Health

Date:

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Minister's Notes

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Appendix One – Agenda for deep dive session

	Item	Lead
1	Context and scene setting	Ministry of Health
2	The need to set a direction	Ministry of Health
3	Primary healthcare focus	Health New Zealand

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Appendix Two – Combined Slide Pack for Primary and Community Healthcare Deep Dive

Contained in separate attachment.

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Appendix Three – Briefing: The future of primary and community healthcare

Contained in separate attachment.

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Primary and community health care

Deep Dive

16 January 2024

Agenda

1. Context and scene-setting
2. Ministry of Health: The need to set a direction
3. Health New Zealand: Primary Healthcare focus

Context and scene setting

Context

The potential of a broader system that delivers primary and community healthcare

- Timely access to high quality healthcare
- Meets local needs close to home
- Brings together different services and providers to keep people well and out of hospital
- Responds more effectively to unmet health needs, particularly for Māori
- Addresses the wider determinants of health

Context

Key challenges in primary and community healthcare

- The current system, centred around general practice, is **difficult to access** for many New Zealanders, which creates pressures elsewhere in the health system
- **Workforce trends and changes in healthcare needs** are likely to compound these pressures
- System settings and structures are not supporting the sector to deliver **accessible, comprehensive, prevention-focussed** healthcare

**Addressing the key
challenges: the need to set a
direction**

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You have an opportunity to set a clear direction for primary and community healthcare

- The key challenges show that current system settings are not working to support **timely access to high quality health care to all New Zealanders**
- We are seeking direction on **your vision for primary and community healthcare**, which **elements of the system design** should be reconsidered, and **how fundamental policy levers should be used differently**
- Setting out a long-term direction will then guide **which shorter-term actions will have the greatest impact** on addressing the key challenges

Potential new direction for the system

There is a significant opportunity for you to set out the outcomes that the primary and community healthcare system should strive towards to support your overall health system objectives

Delivers timely access to high quality healthcare for all



Scope of a strategic work programme: areas to explore

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Key questions to explore in setting the long-term direction



What is the **minimum set of comprehensive health services** that should be available in every community? What should be available everywhere, and what should people expect to have to travel to access?



What level of **local variability in service provision** is acceptable?



How should **community and iwi voice influence decisions** about how primary and community services are provided?



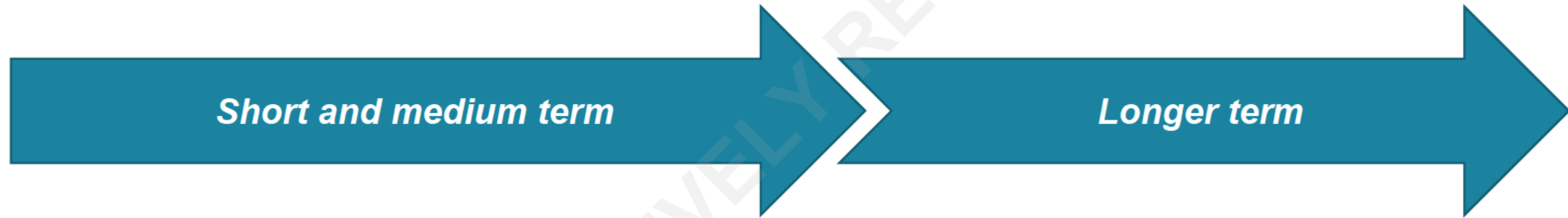
What **structures are necessary** to enhance service provision, and **what should the role of a meso-layer be?**



How should all players in the system be supported to **deliver on outcomes?**

Phasing a strategic work programme

- Realising fundamental shifts will take time, require foundational system changes, and need sector-wide support.
- There are short and medium-term opportunities to address the key challenges in ways that align with longer-term aims.
- We are seeking your views on **which system changes are your highest priority**

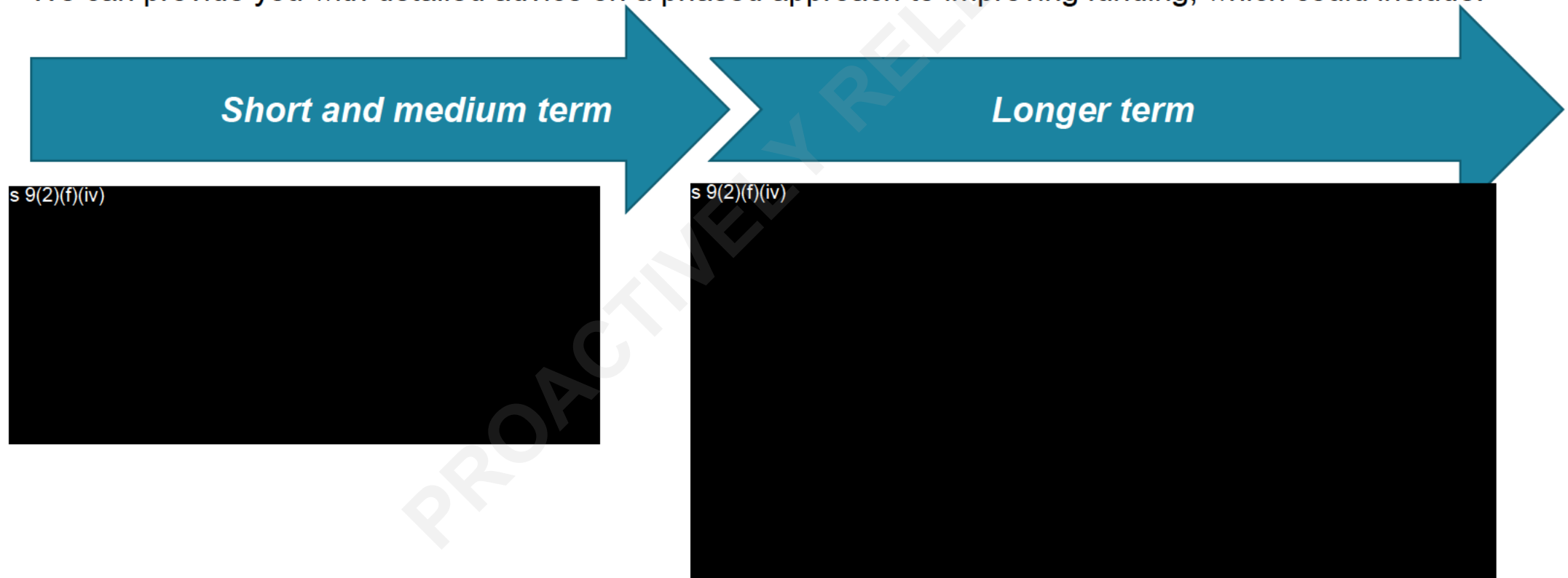


Target **short-term actions towards alleviating immediate pressures** in the primary and community healthcare system while starting a shift towards your strategic objectives

Combine these actions with a **strategic and longer-term programme that sets a clear direction** for the future.

Addressing issues with resourcing

- Funding arrangements for primary care have largely remained the same since the early 2000s, with many reports over recent years recommending changes.
- We can provide you with detailed advice on a phased approach to improving funding, which could include:



Improving targeting of lower-cost care

- Health entitlement cards include the Community Services Card (CSC), the High Health User Card (HUHC), and the Pharmaceutical Subsidy Card (PSC).
- **Target lower cost or free access to services to those with greater needs, largely based on income (CSC) or health needs (HUHC and PSC).**
- Eligibility settings have not been reviewed for several years so may not align well to needs.



Short and medium term

Longer term

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Continued focus on Māori health gains

- Kaupapa Māori services have proven effectiveness at reaching and caring for Māori (COVID-19 vaccination, COVID-19 care and resilience), have built high levels of trust, and take a holistic and comprehensive approach to also address determinants of health

