



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

10 NOV 2016



Dear

On 30 September 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, a copy of the *'Health and Disability Investment Approach update'*, dated 29 July 2016.

The Health and Disability Long Term Work Programme aims to increase the number of disabled people, including long-term unemployed disabled people, in paid employment on an equal basis with others. It is a four year programme that contributes to the Disability Action Plan and builds on the Health and Disability Welfare Reform changes introduced in July 2013.

This work programme has been developed with the health and disability sector by working with key stakeholders and engaging more widely through surveys. The Ministry of Social Development and other agencies are now working on implementing this programme. Further information regarding the Health and Disability Long Term Work Programme is available on the Ministry's website at: www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/research/welfare-reform-health-disability/index.html#content

Enclosed is a copy of the report titled *'Health and Disability Investment Approach update'*, dated 29 July 2016.

Some information is withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act as it is under active consideration. The release of this information is likely to prejudice the quality of information received and the wider public interest of effective government would not be served.

Please note that due to the timing of the report, some information included in the report has now been superseded and there have been a number of name changes to the programmes and services mentioned.

The programmes below have been updated and their new name is outlined below:

- Connecting Services for Better Outcomes is now called Oranga Mahi
- Work Ready Activity Programme is now called Step-up
- The National Hauora Coalition Initiative is now called Mana Taimahi

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The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public after ten working days. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachment on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Ruth Bound
Deputy Chief Executive, Service Delivery



Report

Date: 29 July 2016

Security Level: IN CONFIDENCE

To: Hon Nicky Wagner, Minister for Disability Issues

CC: Hon Anne Tolley, Minister for Social Development

Health and Disability Investment Approach update

Purpose of the report

1. At the officials agency meeting on 4 July you requested we provide you with an update on the following initiatives as requested:
 - Supported Living Payment (SLP) Opt-in Service,
 - Connecting Services for Better Outcomes,
 - National Hauora Coalition Initiative (NHCI).

Background

2. As part of the Better Public Services (BPS) programme, the government has set a target to reduce the number of beneficiaries and reduce the long-term cost of welfare dependency.
3. The Ministry of Social Development has increased its focus on disabled clients and clients with a health condition, this increased focus aims to improve the outcomes for health and disability clients and their families, further reductions in benefit numbers and long-term benefit liability.

SLP Opt-in Service

4. Minister Tolley agreed that the concept of the Young SLP Opt-In ¹trial be expanded to include all working age clients in receipt of SLP on account of a disability or health condition.

¹ Young SLP opt-in is for clients 16-29 years in receipt of SLP to voluntarily opt-in to Work Focused Case Management – Health Condition, Injury or Disability (WFCM – HCD). This is available in 22 service centres across the country.

5. The service is now available across all service centres offering the work focused case management health condition or disability (WFCM-HCD) service.
6. SLP Opt In clients elect to work intensively with a dedicated WFCM-HCD case manager to gain sustainable part-time employment of at least fifteen hours per week.
7. From May 2016, 10% of places within each caseload of the Health Condition Injury and Disability (HCID) service were put aside for SLP clients who opt in to active case management. This created capacity for 2000 SLP clients.
8. Entry is managed via outbound calling by the WFCM-HCD case manager, working from a call-list of potential candidates, and amenable clients entering the system.
9. SLP clients not in the opt-in service are supported in the General Case Management service, as active case management is generally targeted² to clients with work obligations. SLP clients can self-refer to Employment, Participation and Inclusion Services.

Connecting Services for Better Outcomes

10. A new *Connecting Services for Better Outcomes* programme § 9(2)(f)(iv) Active consideration involving District Health Boards (DHB's), the University of Auckland and the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) and a range of other organisations. The scale of each is still to be determined.
11. The DHB's that are involved are Canterbury, Northland, Waikato and Waitemata.
12. The Trials for each DHB are as follows:

Canterbury DHB	§ 9(2)(f)(iv) Active consideration
Northland DHB	
Waikato DHB	
Waitemata DHB	

13. We are currently working with each DHB to determine a go-live date and funding allocation.

² SLP clients do not have work obligations. Work preparation obligations for SLP clients are in legislation but generally not put into practice.

National Hauora Coalition Initiative

1. The National Hauora Coalition (NHC) and MSD are developing a collaborative initiative that aims to achieve better outcomes for Jobseeker Support clients who have a health condition, injury or disability (JS-HCD).
2. The NHC is a Māori-led PHO focused on improving outcomes for whānau. They operate within the metro-Auckland, East Coast and Waikato regions and work with iwi, District Health Boards, and other governmental and non-governmental organisations.
3. NHC General Practices provided feedback to us about patient consultation time constraints, and a sense that more could be discussed than Work Capacity Medical Certificates (WCMC).
4. Discussions with NHC have led to the co-design of a six month trial in West Auckland, involving the Glenmall and New Lynn Service Centres, the Westview Medical Centre and Doctors New Lynn.
5. The initiative will include:
 - consultations that are longer and more frequent (at no cost to the client), when clients request a WCMC, to allow the General Practitioner to initiate a work focused conversation,
 - evening meetings between the General Practices and Work and Income Service Centres, to create strong working relationships, and
 - an education module for NHC General Practitioners focusing on the health benefits of work, underpinned by research and evidence, co-designed and delivered between by NHC and MSD.
6. We will continue to work with NHC to develop this initiative and expect this to launch on 22 August.

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