



# MINUTES      Open - Unconfirmed

## TARANAKI DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD

5 March 2009

Function Centre

War Memorial Hall

Miranda Street

Stratford

### Present

John Young (Chairman), Peter Catt (Deputy Chairman), Alex Ballantyne, Kura Denness, Karen Eagles, Flora Gilkison, Grant Knuckey, Jenny Nager and Tony Ruakere

### In Attendance

Tony Foulkes (Chief Executive), George Thomas (General Manager Finance & Corporate Services), Joy Farley (General Manager Hospital Services), Sandra Boardman (General Manager Planning Funding & Population Health), Christine Henare (Chief Advisor Maori Health), Pamela Hikuroa (PA to Board), Sue Carrington (Media Advisor)

### 592.0 Declaration to Open Meeting

The meeting was opened with a karakia.

### 593.0 Apologies

Dan Devadhar (Board member)

#### Resolution

*That the apology be sustained.*

*Gilkison/Catt  
Carried*

### 594.0 Conflicts of Interest

The following new interest was declared:

Karen Eagles

National Councillor Taranaki for Plunket NZ  
Appointed March 2009.

### 595.0 Minutes

#### Resolution

*That the minutes of the Taranaki District Health Board meeting held 5 February 2009 be confirmed as a true and correct record.*

*Nager/Gilkison  
Carried*

## **596.0 Board Committee Reports**

### 596.1 Hospital Advisory Committee

#### Resolution

*That the Taranaki District Health Board receive the unconfirmed minutes of the Hospital Advisory Committee meeting held on 24 February 2009 and notes recommendations contained therein.*

*Knuckey/Nager*

*Carried*

### 596.2 Community & Public Health & Disability Support Advisory Committees

Mrs Gilkison, Chairman of the Committees, brought the Board's attention to the presentation on Assessment Treatment and Rehabilitation Elderly Services Co-ordinator. The presentation provided information on the new way of looking at this area. The Committee was most appreciative of the information provided and an update on progress was to be given at a later date.

An issue raised at the meeting was people smoking around the entrance to the hospital. The Chief Executive advised the main focus is and will continue to be helping people not to smoke in the first place as opposed to moving from one place to the other and that has to be long term strategy. In the meantime there are some practical issues which create difficulties for other people which the hospital will continue to try and manage.

#### Resolution

*That the Taranaki District Health Board receive the unconfirmed minutes of the Community and Public Health and Disability Support Advisory Committees meeting held on 24 February 2009 and notes recommendations contained therein.*

*Gilkison/Ballantyne*

*Carried*

## **597.0 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman referred to the Minister's Letter of Expectation and highlighted to the Board the extent of effort that had gone in to meet the Ministry's deadlines for the District Annual Plan and commended the senior management team on their efforts to meet the expectations of the Minister and Ministry.

## **598.0 Management Reports**

### 598.1 Chief Executive's Report

Mr Foulkes took report as read, highlighting:

- Minister's letter of expectations provides clarity around what Government wants the public health sector to deliver and with the Board's support management team working hard to deliver on the expectations always remembering that the reason we are here is to provide access to good quality health services for the people of Taranaki.

- Fair to say significant challenge involved in meeting all expectations and it is good that there is recognition for the need of flexibility to reprioritise efforts to meet the challenge
- Whilst fortunate to have dedicated team of clinical and support staff working throughout Taranaki we are going to need everybody's help in order to meet challenges that lie ahead
- Looking forward to working with everybody hopefully with Board's support to deliver on expectations from the Minister.
- Good news heard last month around certification confirmed now also had formal confirmation of our success in maintaining accreditation status good news and credit to everybody in the organisation contributed to maintaining that particular status.
- Second year that the sector has released information on the Serious and Sentinel Events in New Zealand. Note that this is considered to be a good practice by becoming increasingly open about sharing information and working hard to learn from those actions. Important that we continue to be open in how we identify events and learn from them in the future.

#### Discussion

Questions were raised around the Clinical Board Review and whether primary health care would be represented on the clinical board.

The Chief Executive advised that it was the intention, and was included as part of the recommendations, for a primary health care perspective to be included on the Board but also fair to say the majority of the initial activity and thinking of the Clinical Board will be predominantly hospital focused. However, in order to be able to identify and improve issues within the hospital it was important to understand the links with the primary sector and from this approach be able to build bridges between secondary and primary sectors.

Discussion took place around HISAC and whether Taranaki was actively involved in this work.

The Chief Executive advised that the HISAC committee was established as a Ministerial Advisory Committee and the Taranaki DHB was not directly involved, however, there was an overlap of membership and links with the Ministry of Health and National Group consisting of MoH, DHB and Primary Health Sector and he had been recently nominated to this group on behalf of the Midland DHBs. Elizabeth Plant, the DHB Chief Pharmacist, had been invited to be a member of HISAC, but was not directly representing Taranaki DHB.

Board members referred to the discussions held at the Hospital Advisory committee regarding the number of non-emergency patients presenting to the Hawera ED noting that one of the main issues facing these people was cost of treatment, transport and difficulties in obtaining appointments. It was brought to management's attention that special needs grants were available from Work and Income and perhaps this information could be made known to the Hawera GPs and public to assist in overcoming this issue.

598.2 General Manager Finance and Corporate Services

Mr Thomas took report as read highlighting:

- Nothing specific to report by way of exception
- Continue to track to budget
- Focus continues to be on hospital services to manage deficit within forecast provided.

Resolution

*That the Taranaki District Health Board notes and receives the Chief Executive and Management's reports and attachments.*

*Knuckey/Catt  
Carried*

**599.0 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday 9 April 2009 in New Plymouth.

**600.0 Exclusion of Public**

Resolution

*That the Taranaki District Health Board exclude the public from the meeting on the basis of the following matters:*

1. *To present Taranaki District Health Board Minutes pursuant to an earlier resolution publicly excluding the item.*
2. *To present Minutes of Committee meetings pursuant to an earlier resolution publicly excluding the item.*
3. *To present Chief Executive's Report in that the public conduct of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information where the withholding of the information is necessary to:*
  - (g) *Enable the DHB, Board or Board Committee holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.*
  - (h) *Enable the DHB, Board or Board Committee holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).*
4. *To present draft District Annual Plan 2009/10 in that the public conduct of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information where the withholding of the information is necessary to:*
  - (g) *Enable the DHB, Board or Board Committee holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.*

*Nager/Catt  
Carried*

The meeting adjourned at 3.05pm to reconvene at 3.30pm

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Chairman

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Date