

New Zealand Government



Health and Disability System Reform



**Making a stronger
health and disability system
for all New Zealanders**

Announcement: April 2021

What this document is about



This document is about the **reform** of the health and disability system.

We use the word **reform** to mean changing something to make it better.

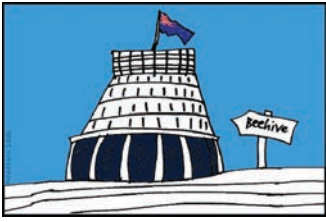


In 2018 the government asked for a **review** of the health and disability system.



A **review** is when you look at something to see:

- what is working well
- what could be made better.



The government is making changes because of the things they found out in that review.



The government is going to reform the healthcare system so it:

- is not as complicated
- is fairer
- gives better care.



Why do we need to reform our health system?



The health system does not always do well in making sure everyone gets the treatment or support they need.



Sometimes some people get better treatment than others - for example because of where they live.



There will be more need for health services in the future because of things like:



- people living longer meaning there are more older people
- more people having **chronic illness**.



Chronic illness is illness that lasts a long time.



The health system is not going to be able to have the services it needs to without change.

We need change to support the people who work in health.



The reform of the health and disability system means it will keep working well in the future.

Our vision



A **vision** is how we want things to be in the future.

Our vision is to build a system which achieves **pae ora**.



Pae ora means healthy futures for all New Zealanders.



Some of the important parts of a health system that achieves pae ora are:

- **equity**



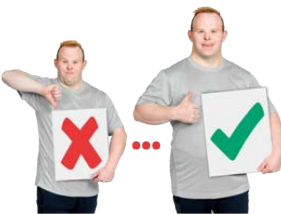
- **partnership**



- **sustainability**



- **person and whānau centred care**



- **excellence.**



We talk about what all these mean on pages 7 to 9



Equity means a fair system for everyone.

It also means making things go better for:

- Māori
- Pasifika
- disabled people
- other groups of people whose needs are not well met by the health system.



Partnership means working together with Māori in how the system:

- is designed
- works.



It also means everyone can be part of working out systems that work well for them.



Sustainability means the system can keep working well over a long time.

This includes stopping people getting ill as well as treating people when they are sick.



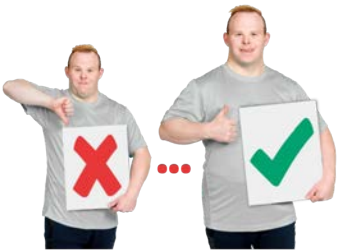
Person and whānau centred care means people are supported to manage their own healthcare with their carers and whānau.



Excellence means doing things the best way we can.

It means looking at:

- using new technology
- always working to make things the best they can be





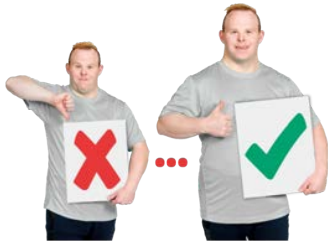
A system which includes all of these would mean that:



- Māori ways of doing things are supported to do well
- everyone can get a lot of different kinds of support to stay well in the community
- services are well designed to meet the needs of everyone
- everyone gets great care no matter where they live
- more people can choose to use digital services like seeing their doctor over the internet
- people who work in health have good support.

What will the new system look like?

The 2 big changes we plan to do are to set up:



1. Health New Zealand

2. Māori Health Authority

1. Health New Zealand



We plan to make it so there is 1 health service for the whole of New Zealand.

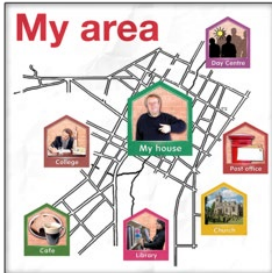
This will mean everyone will get good care wherever they live.



This health service will be called **Health New Zealand.**



People will work for Health New Zealand from many different parts of New Zealand.



There will also be groups called **locality networks** where you live.

These might include:



- GPs



- midwives



- nurses
- optometrists who look after your eyes.

These will be:



- the same people you see now
- better connected with each other.



The Ministry of Health will:

- look after the health system
- give advice to government.



2. Māori Health Authority



We will also make a new **Māori Health Authority**.

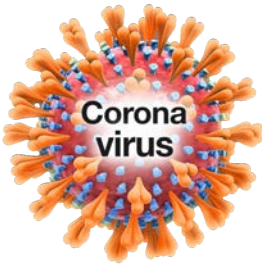
This will make sure:

- Māori get better healthcare
- there are services that are a good fit for Māori.





Another change we plan to make is to make some new parts of the health system that work on **public health**.



Public health works on things like:

- stopping illnesses like through vaccinations
- stopping the spread of viruses like COVID-19 and measles.
- working on things that make people sick like:
 - smoking
 - bad housing.

What does this Reform mean for Disability Support Services?



The government has said it is working on changing things for Disability Support Services separately to this reform.



Disability Support Services are also called DSS.



These changes are being made by working together with disabled people.



There will be more information about how things will change in September 2021.



It is important to disabled people that the new health system works well for them.



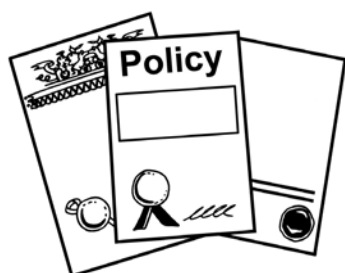
What disabled people think will be an important part of making sure the reform makes a better system for everyone.

What will happen next?



We are only just starting to change things.

Things will not change for you right now.



The main things we will work on now are:

- policy which means the rules about how things are done
- working together to plan how things work
- getting ready for making the reform happen





We will be giving more information about things like:

- how the government will pay for it
- the workers in the new system
- digital health like video appointments.

There will be chances for you to have your say about how the new system should work.

We will keep giving out information on how the reforms are going.



You can find out more about the reforms on our website at:

www.dpmc.govt.nz/our-business-units/transition-unit



You can also contact us by email at:

enquiries.tu@dpmc.govt.nz

This information was written by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC).



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