

Minutes of the Meeting of the Members of the
Counties Manukau District Health Board Disability Support Advisory Committee
Held in the Board Room, Counties Manukau District Health Board,
19 Lambie Drive, Manukau
On Tuesday 6th November 2001 at 1.00pm

- Present: Mrs Metua Faasisila (Chair), Mr Tahuna Minhinnick, Mrs Pare Rauwhero, Mr Tu'uta Pome'e, Prof. Sir John Scott,
- In attendance: Mr Chris Mules, Mr Keven Palmer (Northern Region Disability Issues Directorate, Ministry of Health), Mr Alistair Burry (Secretary)
- Apologies: Mr Ross Keenan
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1. Welcome

The Chair, Mrs Metua Faasisila, welcomed the Committee members, attendees and observers to the first public meeting of the Disability Support Advisory Committee of Counties Manukau District Health Board. The Chair noted that there were two members of the public (from the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs) and one staff member (Ms Jenni Coles, General Manager Intermediary Care) attending.

2. Apologies

The Counties Manukau District Health Board Chair, Mr Ross Keenan, submitted his apology.

3. Procedural Issues

3.1 Deputations

There were no deputations from the public.

3.2 Disclosure of Interest

Disclosure of Interest advices had previously been received from Mrs Faasisila and Prof. Sir John Scott. Disclosures were submitted at the meeting by Mr Pome'e and Mr Minhinnick. Mrs Rauwhero is to complete and return her disclosure.

4. Committee Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for DiSAC had been adopted by the Counties Manukau DHB Board in March 2001. Mr Mules advised the Committee that these Terms had been drawn up based on the NZ Public Health and Disability Act 2000. However, funding of Disability Support Services has not yet devolved to DHB's from the Ministry of Health. Accordingly, some of the responsibilities set out in the Terms of Reference could not yet be executed.

5. Committee Membership

The Chair noted that there was a need to widen membership of the Committee to ensure that there was adequate representation from all sectors of the community relevant to the Committee. For example, a representative for older people with disability, children with disability and parents of children with disability. Mr Minhinnick observed that Maori were underrepresented in the over 65 age group, due to lower average age at date of death.

It was also noted that committee membership required approval by the CMDHB Board and that new appointments to DiSAC would likely be made once the final composition of the new Board was known.

6. Government Decisions, Policies and Strategies re Disability Services

The letter from the Hon Ruth Dyson, Minister for Disability Issues, dated 20 July 2001, advising of the Government's proposed split in funding for younger people from those aged 65 and over, was discussed. It was noted that although it was expected that devolution to DHB's of Disability Support Services funding would likely commence from July 2002, no implementation plan had yet been received from the Ministry, promised for September.

A paper "Health of Older People Strategy" dated September 2001, from the Hon. Ruth Dyson, was distributed to Committee members. Ms Jenni Coles advised that South Auckland Health were preparing a submission on the paper, which will be circulated to Committee members for their comment back to Chris Mules. It is understood that the Ministry's advised deadline for submissions of November 9 is flexible.

Mr Palmer advised that of the two lead DHB's referred to in the media statement from the Hon. Ruth Dyson dated 23 July 2001, Northland have just commenced work, breaking the task down into smaller projects.

7. Ministry of Health's View

Mr Keven Palmer, Locality Manager for Counties Manukau district, Northern Region, Disability Issues Directorate (DID) of the Ministry of Health, gave a presentation on the Ministry's structure, operations and strategies of the DID.

Points made included:

- In the Northern Region, there is a Locality Manager for the equivalent of each DHB's geographic area.
- Psychiatric disabilities are not covered by DID in this region, they remain under Mental Health.
- The DID has a budget for 2001/02 of \$360m. for the Northern Region (\$1.2b nationally). Of this, \$127m is for rest homes and private hospitals.
- The issue of DSS (Disability Support Services) versus DID will be taken back by Mr Palmer for the Directorate to consider.
- Counties Manukau district is well advanced in identifying and addressing Maori health and disability issues.

- The funding and administrative split between services for older people (65 and over) and younger, had yet to be put in place.
- Prof. Sir John Scott noted that, based on his experience, there was a need for improved training of home based care givers, and work force development programmes.

Mrs Faasisila thanked Mr Palmer for his presentation, a valuable contribution to the orientation of the newly formed DiSAC.

8. Committee Work Programme for 2001/02

Mr Mules spoke to his paper, and the proposed actions under the following headings were discussed:

1. Identify and apply a methodology to assess whether disabled people's health service needs are being met.

Mr Palmer advised that there are no suitable indicators for this. He is to ensure that the issue will be on the agenda for the next regional DiSAC meeting. Prof. Sir John Scott suggested that measuring the speed of a patient's full recovery from disability might be a useful indicator.

2. Monitor and review disability support services provided by South Auckland Health against Ministry requirements (with particular emphasis on services for older people).

Ms Jenni Coles is to be invited to present a paper to the next meeting of DiSAC, outlining the work being done by SAH. Mr Minhinnick repeated his earlier comment that "older people" for Maori could be anyone over age 40.

3. Support development of the Counties Manukau DHB Strategic Plan within the context of the NZ Disability Strategy.

It was agreed that the draft Strategic Plan would be circulated to the Committee for comment.

4. Prepare the DHB for devolution of planning and funding responsibilities for services for older people, including participation in development of Ministry strategy, policy, procedures and consultation.

The Committee looked forward to receiving and reviewing the Ministry's plan for the devolution of services to DHB's.

Mr Minhinnick advised that Manawhenua may have a view on disability support health issues that may not necessarily represent the views of all Maori. It was agreed that Mr Minhinnick and Mrs Rauwhero would bring a paper to the Committee outlining Manawhenua's views. The Committee would then incorporate agreed action plans into the Work Programme, rather than being a separate plan.

Mr Pome'e was asked by the Chair to submit a similar presentation on a Pacific perspective of disability.

The Committee adopted the work programme as submitted by management, subject to all the above comments.

Mr Mules asked Mr Palmer about a Service Gap analysis that had been prepared

by the Ministry and Mr Palmer was requested to put the matter on the agenda for the next regional DiSAC meeting.

9. Committee Relationships – Northern Region DiSACs Meeting

The Action Points from the regional meeting held on 20 September 2001 were reviewed. It was clarified that the next meeting of the Regional committee would be held on November 21 at Rehab Plus at Carrington at 1.00pm, with the following meeting scheduled for February 14, 2002. All members of the CMDHB DiSAC were eligible and invited to attend. Mr Palmer is to confirm Mr Mules' eligibility to attend.

Mr Palmer was again requested to ensure that the issues raised earlier in the meeting were put on the agenda for November 21. Also, the “unbundling” of the services for people aged 65 and over from younger people should be on the agenda.

Mr Mules commented that the disability sector was complex and it would assist CMDHB considerably if the Ministry would clarify the respective roles, responsibilities and relationships. Essentially - Who is doing what, by when and with whom do they link?

10. Management Support for DiSAC

Mr Mules advised that the Ministry had not given DHB's any funding for resources to support the Disability sector or the Committee. Accordingly, CMDHB did not have any resource focussed on this area. However, Mr Mules believed that a resource for half a day to one day a week was required and a suitable person was being sought.

11. Future Meetings

The Committee were cognisant that the regional committee was meeting quarterly. It was agreed that the CMDHB DiSAC would meet monthly on the first Tuesday of the month, with the next meeting on December 4. There would not be a meeting in January, nor in February due to the Regional meeting, so the following meeting would be on March 5, 2002.

Meetings would be at 19 Lambie Drive, Manukau and would commence at 1.00pm.

It was noted that the new Board and Committee memberships may not have been finalised by the time of the December meeting, so the current Board member appointees may be requested to attend.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 3.05pm.

Signed as a true and correct record on the day of 2001.

Chair:
Mrs Metua Faasisila

Recommendation (moved/ seconded)

The minutes of the meeting of the Disability Support Advisory Committee of Counties Manukau District Health Board of 6th November 2001 be approved.