



# COVID-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group Minutes

<b>Date</b>	15 June 2021	
<b>Time</b>	4.00-5.00pm	
<b>Venue</b>	Zoom	
<b>Attendees</b>	Sir Brian Roche Rob Fyfe Debbie Ryan Dale Bramley Philip Hill	Louise Cox (DPMC) Rebekah Cameron (DPMC) Amber Bill (DPMC)
<b>Chair</b>	Sir Brian Roche	
<b>Minute taker</b>	Louise Cox	

## Item 1: Apologies and disclosure of interests

1. Debbie Ryan disclosed a four-month contract working on the Health and Disability Review led by Stephen McKernan.
2. No apologies.

## Item 2: Update on the Auckland outbreak review

3. Brian gave an update on the review noting that the report has been submitted to the Minister for COVID-19 Response and is going to Cabinet within the coming two weeks.
4. It was noted in discussion that documents including the review report will be proactively released on the Unite Against COVID-19 website following the Cabinet report-back.

## Item 3: Work programme discussion

5. The Group had a discussion on the proposed forward work programme and what the initial priorities should be. The two main themes for initial priorities discussed were:
  - a. the border
  - b. infrastructure and capacity for a future system.
6. There was discussion on the subject of vaccination and equity matters. The Secretariat noted that Sir David Skegg's group is doing quite a lot of thinking in the vaccination space and that equity could potentially be picked up there. It was discussed whether Dame Karen Poutasi,

Chair of the COVID-19 Immunisation Programme Governance Group should be invited to attend the next meeting.

7. There was a brief discussion in how the Group will approach delivery of the work programme. It was raised that it is desirable to always have two people working together on a topic.

#### **Item 4: Initial input into Surveillance Strategy and Testing Plan update**

8. The Secretariat provided background information prior to the commencement of the update of the Surveillance Strategy and recent contact by the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) seeking input from the Group.
9. The Group expressed a desire to better understand the process of the update of the Strategy and noted that mechanisms for incorporating quality peer review had been suggested previously. The Secretariat agreed to follow up with the Ministry to clarify the process being followed for the review and how previous feedback was being considered. There was discussion that a meeting with the Ministry, including Sir David Skegg, might be useful to discuss the process of peer review.

#### **Item 5: Scope and focus of the meeting with New South Wales**

10. The Group discussed the purpose and scope of a proposed conversation with New South Wales officials involved in their COVID-19 Response. It was agreed that the conversation at a high level will be to establish a flow of information so that we can learn from their experience.

#### **Item 6: Any other business**

11. Philip noted he is coming to Wellington to spend some time with the Reconnecting New Zealanders team at DPMC as part of the Strategic Public Health Advisory Group.
12. Brian raised that he would like the Group to meet with Minister Hipkins in Wellington in the not too distant future.
13. Dale raised the question of what other jurisdictions we could look at as exemplars.

#### **Action register – Live actions**

	Date of meeting	Action	Responsible owner	Progress
1	15 June 2021	Brian and the Secretariat will discuss the idea of inviting Dame Karen Poutasi to a future meeting to discuss the vaccine roll out in the context of equity.	DPMC Secretariat	
2	15 June 2021	Follow up with the Ministry on the use of the TAG for the Surveillance Strategy update	DPMC Secretariat	

	Date of meeting	Action	Responsible owner	Progress
3	15 June 2021	Discuss with Sir David Skegg the proposed meeting with the Ministry	Brian Roche/DPMC Secretariat	
4	15 June 2021	Write up the scope of the proposed NSW conversation and share with the Group	DPMC Secretariat	
5	15 June 2021	Work with the Office of the Minister for COVID-19 Response to arrange a meeting with the members of the Group	DPMC Secretariat	

Proactively Released