

PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING HIS-NZ

HISAC Report to the Minister for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2006

SECTOR PROGRESS TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION

Proposals and Projects Advised to the Committee

Primary Health Information System

The Ministry is working with the sector to develop a business case for funding the development of information systems to support the implementation of the Primary Health Care Strategy. This initiative has strong links to Action Zone 7 Chronic Care and Disease Management, and Action Zone 10 National Primary Care Collection.

National Systems Review

The Ministry initiated this review to ensure that the 50 or so national systems over which it exercises stewardship will continue to be capable of meeting sector needs for the next five to six years. This initiative has strong links to Action Zone 9 National Outpatient Collection, Action Zone 10 National Primary Care Collection, and Action Zone 12 Anchoring Framework.

The review also includes an element of improving networking and connectivity across the sector which is strongly aligned with Action Zone 1 Networking.

Paul Cressey and Chai Chuah represent HISAC on this Review and ensure the development of the business case takes into account HIS-NZ and the current thinking around the action zones.

Health IT Cluster

The Health IT Cluster produced reports on electronic laboratories in February 2006 and electronic pharmacy in May 2006. Both documents are important inputs into work on those respective Action Zones.

The Committee's HIS-NZ Leadership Role

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Committee's business plan identified the importance of tracking progress made by the health and disability sector towards the implementation of HIS-NZ. Several draft papers have been considered by the Committee and that work is continuing.

Scoping the HIS-NZ Action Zones

In October 2005, the Committee agreed a process for expanding on each of the 12 Action Zones and specifically determining the current state, desired future state, and key steps needed to achieve specific benefits sought. The process included the production of an initial view of each action zone, more detailed documentation for each action zone and a revision to the implementation roadmap. Each of the phases of the process included extensive proactive champion-led engagement with over 500 individuals and organisations from across the sector.

In April 2006 the Committee, with your approval, published and distributed copies of the *Initial View* documents for the action zones: National Network Strategy; ePharmacy, and; eLabs. Draft initial view documents were prepared for action zones: National Health Index promotion; Health Practitioner Index Implementation; eDischarges; Chronic Care; National Outpatients Collection, and; National System Access.

These documents are developed to further inform sector discussion and input into more substantial work on each action zone. The more substantial material is referred to as *Preliminary Scope and Approach* documents.

This work will provide the basis against which the Committee can review and ultimately revise the indicative implementation roadmap which was published with HIS-NZ in August 2005. We acknowledge that we did not meet our target of completing all initial views for all action zones and eight preliminary scope and approach documents by 30 June 2006. This was due to staffing issues, discussed later in our report, but we are advancing this work as a priority and as staff resourcing allows.

Comment: This work was completed in the period 1 July to 31 December 2006.

Stocktake

As part of the supporting work around scoping the Action Zones, the HISAC Office undertook a survey of planned or actual information management and technology related activity across the sector. This provided an insight into the nature and extent of IT investment plans and current activities across the sector. It also highlighted the challenge the Committee faces in getting appropriate priority to HIS-NZ.

The survey, supplemented from information from other sources, identified some 800 specific proposed or actual projects across the sector.

Stakeholder Communications and Engagement

The Committee has undertaken a range of communication and engagement activities in fulfilling its leadership function. This includes attending a range of meetings and fora. These have been undertaken by the Chair, Committee members and key members of the HISAC Office.

A list of key engagements included:

- National Primary Health Care Patient Management Systems vendor forum
- Northern DHBs' Chief Information Officers
- Midland DHBs' Chief Information Officers
- Health Informatics NZ - Primary Care seminar
- Pegasus Health PHO
- Southern DHBs' Chief Information Officers
- Rural GPs Network Conference
- Mental Health Directorate – Ministry
- DHB Chief Information Officers National Forum
- eHealth Conference

- Telepaeds
- Primary Care Information Management Group
- State Services Commission and Treasury
- Rotorua General Practice Group
- Chair of Primary Care Information Management Group

The Committee approved and issued two newsletters to the sector during this period. They covered several topics including: processes for sector engagement in the development of Action Zone Preliminary Scope and Approaches, an update on projects relating to the Health Network, comment on the recommendations contained in the OAG report and a celebration of some of the presentations at the recent Health Informatics New Zealand (HINZ) primary care seminar.

Planning was undertaken for a HISAC presence at the HINZ and Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners (RNZCGP) conferences in Auckland in August 2006.

The Committee's Functional Responsibilities

Infrastructure Sub-committee (ISC) - Strategic

The Sub-committee reconstituted the records of decisions and documentation of processes relating to the Health Network.

It was agreed that Standards New Zealand would begin the process of seeking an amendment to the security and data encryption clauses of the Health Network Code of Practice.

Infrastructure Sub-committee (ISC) – Activities

Under the terms of reference the Sub-committee took over ongoing responsibilities under the Health Network Code of Practice as the Health Network Governance Body¹. The Health Network is a secure, national electronic network that allows the secure exchange of health information between hospital clinicians, general practitioners, funders and other providers. Currently all District Health Boards, and an estimated 30% of general practice and other health providers have been registered to use the Health Network. At 30 June 2006 there were 709 organisations connected to the Network.

The sub-committee was concerned about the level and nature of information available for health practitioners who may wish to connect to the Health Network and the complicated registration process. A contractor was engaged to prepare a report with recommendations on enhancements that could be made to the registration process and the information provided in line with the OAG report recommendations.

The sub-committee received from Telecom New Zealand, two proposals for the accreditation of new networks to the Health Network. The sub-committee conferred provisional accreditation status to the HealthZone product (aimed at interconnecting DHB and other large sites), subject to amendment to the Health Network Code of Practice amendment, to allow for installations to occur in the sector.

Health Information Standards Sub-committee - Strategic

HISO considered a report reviewing its operations and processes. In response it agreed to enhancements to various HISO processes, agreed the methodology for establishing the HISO work programme and requested the HISAC Office to enhance communications about the work of HISO and health information standards to the sector.

¹ In accordance with the HISAC Terms of Reference, the Ministry of Health has recognised the Infrastructure Sub-committee as the Health Network Governance Body under the Health Network Code of Practice

Health Information Standards Sub-committee - Activities

The Referrals, Status and Discharges Messaging Standard, the Pathology and Radiology Messaging Standard and the Data Repository Standard were released for public comment.

The Online Forms Server Standards project was initiated in June 2006 and the Project for Integration of Mental Health Data (PRIMHED) commenced with a call for nominations for the Expert Advisory Committee to lead that project.

HISO was also represented on the Health Information Workforce Systems Data Project led by DHBNZ to develop common workforce data sets.

COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE

Office of the Auditor-General Report

A response to the OAG Report: *Progress with Priorities for Health Information Management and Information Technology* has been prepared for you and is in the final stages of completion.

Comment: This document was sent to you in July 2006.