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18 October 2023

Brendan Swan

By email: fyi-request-23771-5726168b@requests.fyi.org.nz  
Ref: H2023030558

Tēnā koe Brendan

### **Response to your request for official information**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 10 August 2023 for information regarding the interim Government Policy Statement 2022–2024 and the first Government Policy Statement 2024-2027. You requested:

*I am requesting information regarding the process used to create the Government Policy Statement on Health. Specifically:*

- 1. How are the topics decided upon?*
- 2. What is the process for deciding what items are selected for inclusion?*
- 3. Who is responsible for drafting the document?*
- 4. Who is responsible for reviewing and editing the document?*
- 5. Are there any protocols for submitting suggestions?*
- 6. Can you please share documentation that was used to support and create the current "Interim Government Policy Statement on Health 2022-2024"?*

Manatū Hauora contacted you on 17 August 2023 in accordance with section 18B of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) as part six of your request, as it is currently worded, is for a very large volume of information. On 18 August 2023 you agreed to refine this part of your request to the following:

*"All briefings that were used to support and create the current "Interim Government Policy Statement on Health 2022-2024"?"*

Each part of your request is responded to below.

- 1. How are the topics decided upon?*

The Minister of Health set their priorities for the health sector over a three year period via the Government Policy Statement of Health (s36(1) of the Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Act 2022 [Pae Ora Act] refers). The topics within the GPS are decided by the Minister, in line with their priorities.

Manatū Hauora has developed a suite of six Pae Ora strategies as required by the Pae Ora Act to set the direction for the health system over the next 10 years. These include the New

Zealand Health Strategy, Pae Tū-Hauora Māori Strategy, Te Mana Ola-Pacific Health Strategy, Health of Disabled People Strategy, Rural Health Strategy and Women's Health Strategies. This information is publicly available: [www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-health-system/pae-ora-healthy-futures-all-new-zealanders/pae-ora-strategies](http://www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-health-system/pae-ora-healthy-futures-all-new-zealanders/pae-ora-strategies).

The priorities from the Pae Ora Strategies informs the GPS priorities. Section 35(b) of the Pae Ora Act states that the Minister must have regard to but is not bound by any health strategy.

*2. What is the process for deciding what items are selected for inclusion?*

The Minister of Health decides on the priorities of the GPS. When preparing the GPS, the Minister must consult with Health New Zealand (Te Whatu Ora) and the Māori Health Authority (Te Aka Whai Ora) and have regard for their views (s35(c) refers) and engage with organisations and individuals that the Minister considers appropriate (s35(d) refers).

Manatū Hauora is engaging with Te Whatu Ora, Te Aka Whai Ora, The Treasury and specialist crown entities such as Te Tāhū Hauora | Health Quality and Safety Commission, Pharmac, the New Zealand Blood and Organ Service, Te Aho O Te Kahu| Cancer Control Agency, Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission| Te Hiringa Mahara, Health Research Council, Accident Compensation Commission [ACC] and Health and Disability Commissioner.

In addition, the development of the GPS priorities draws on what New Zealanders have said during the consultation on the Pae Ora strategies across the motu which included face-to-face engagements with Māori, multi-ethnic communities, rainbow communities, Pacific communities and an online discussion platform (Tātou).

*3. Who is responsible for drafting the document?*

Manatū Hauora is responsible for leading the development of the GPS 2024-2027.

*4. Who is responsible for reviewing and editing the document?*

Manatū Hauora will be responsible for reviewing and editing of the GPS 2024-2027.

*5. Are there any protocols for submitting suggestions?*

A substantive engagement process was recently undertaken on the development of the Pae Ora Strategies. The insights gathered from engagement will inform the broad direction of the GPS. The Pae Ora Strategies are available here: [www.health.govt.nz/news-media/news-items/launch-pae-ora-healthy-futures-strategies](http://www.health.govt.nz/news-media/news-items/launch-pae-ora-healthy-futures-strategies).

The process for consultation on the GPS 2024-2027 is currently under development. Therefore, this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA Act 1982, as the information requested does not exist.

*6. Can you please share all briefings that were used to support and create the current "Interim Government Policy Statement on Health 2022-2024"?*

Manatū Hauora has identified eight documents in scope of this part of your request. All documents are itemised in Appendix 1 and copies of the documents are enclosed. Where information is withheld under section 9 of the Act, I have considered the countervailing public interest in release and consider that it does not outweigh the need to withhold at this time.

The relevant links are provided below for your reference:

- [8 October 2021 - Memorandum: Development of the interim Government Policy Statement for the reformed health system](#). Please refer to page 3-11.
- [22 October 2021 - Memorandum: Further advice on the interim Government Policy Statement – priorities for inclusion](#). Please refer to page 3-11.
- [26 November 2021 - Memorandum: Further advice on the interim Government Policy Statement – high level approach to priorities](#). Please refer to page 3-11.

I trust this information fulfils your request. If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: [oiagr@health.govt.nz](mailto:oiagr@health.govt.nz).

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Nāku noa, nā



Maree Roberts  
**Deputy Director-General**  
**Strategy Policy and Legislation | Te Pou Rautaki**

## Appendix 1: List of documents for release:

#	Date	Document details	Decision on release
1	28 January 2022	Briefing: Update on the iGPS – iMHA board feedback and headline measures to achieve priorities	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.
1A		Annex 1: Draft Interim Government Policy Statement on Health 2022-24	Refused in full under section 18(d) of the Act as the document is publicly available: <a href="http://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf">www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf</a> .
2	16 March 2022	Briefing: Update on the iGPS – feedback from interim entities and approach to sector engagement	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.
2A		Annex 1: Emerging content for the Interim Government Policy Statement on Health 2022-24	Released in full.
3	7 April 2022	Briefing: Update on the iGPS – draft narrative and detailed plan for engagement in April – June 2022	Some information withheld under the following sections of the Act: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons.</li> <li>• section 9(2)(g)(i) to protect the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions. The greater public interest is in the ability of individuals to express opinions in the course of their duty.</li> </ul>
3A		Annex 1: Draft Interim Government Policy Statement on Health 2022-24	Refused in full under section 18(d) of the Act as the final version of this document is publicly available: <a href="http://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf">www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf</a> .
3B		Annex 2: Integrated health reform engagement plan April – June 2022	Released in full.
4	13 May 2022	Briefing: Further update on the interim Government Policy Statement (iGPS) – refined narrative and proposed iGPS measures	Some information withheld under the following sections of the Act: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons.</li> <li>• section 9(2)(h) of the Act as it is legally privileged. The greater public interest is in ensuring that government</li> </ul>

#	Date	Document details	Decision on release
			departments are able to continue to access confidential legal advice.
4A		Annex 1: Draft interim Government Policy Statement (iGPS)	Refused in full under section 18(d) of the Act as the final version of this document is publicly available: <a href="http://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf">www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf</a> .
4B		Annex 2: Proposed iGPS measures	Released in full.
5	27 May 2022	Briefing: Appendices to the interim Government Policy Statement	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.
5A		Annex A: Assessment of direction-setting documents	Released in full.
6	10 June 2022	Briefing: Update on the interim Government Policy Statement (iGPS) – final draft iGPS and steps to completion	Some information withheld under the following sections of the Act: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons.</li> <li>• section 9(2)(f)(iv) as it is under active consideration. The release of this information at this time would be likely to prejudice the ability of government to consider advice and the wider public interest in effective government would not be served.</li> <li>• section 9(2)(h) of the Act as it is legally privileged. The greater public interest is in ensuring that government departments are able to continue to access confidential legal advice.</li> </ul>
6A		Annex 1 – Draft interim Government Policy Statement on Health 2022-24	Refused in full under section 18(d) of the Act as the final version of this document is publicly available: <a href="http://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf">www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf</a> .
6B		Annex 2 – Summary of updates to iGPS measures	Released in full.
6C		Annex 3 – Health sector accountability and monitoring framework technical appendix	

#	Date	Document details	Decision on release
6D		Annex 4 – Accountability Framework A3	
7	16 June 2022	Briefing: Interim Government Policy Statement for Ministerial Oversight Group on Health and Disability System Reform	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.
8	17 June 2022	Briefing: Interim Government Policy Health Statement on Health	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.
8A		Annex 1: Draft interim Government Policy Statement on Health	Refused in full under section 18(d) of the Act as the final version of this document is publicly available: <a href="http://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf">www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf</a> .
9	28 June 2022	Briefing: Final Interim Government Policy Statement (iGPS) package for approval to issue and publish	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.
9A		Annex 1: Final draft iGPS	Refused in full under section 18(d) of the Act as the final version of this document is publicly available: <a href="http://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf">www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf</a> .
9B		Annex 2: iGPS draft with MOG feedback highlighted	Refused in full under section 18(d) of the Act as the final version of this document is publicly available: <a href="http://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf">www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/hp8132-igps-v28.pdf</a> .
9C		Annex 3: Existing Health entities letters	Released in full.
9D		Annex 4: New Health entities letters	Released in full.
9E		Annex 5: Letters to other entities	Released in full.
9F		Annex 6: iGPS measure baseline and expectation for 2022 to 2024	Released in full.