

30 January 2024

Liam Murphy  
[fyi-request-24802-e8e9aa86@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-24802-e8e9aa86@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Ref: HNZ00035008

Tēnā koe Liam

Thank you for your email of 20 November 2023 to Manatū Hauora Ministry of Health (the Ministry) regarding Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand's Partnership with HealthAlliance and Equity in Digital Healthcare. Your email was forwarded to Te Whatu Ora to address your original request made under the Official Information Act (the Act) 1982.

Te Whatu Ora is responding to your request as a correspondence response.

*"I am writing under the Official Information Act, keen to understand more about the evolving landscape of healthcare in New Zealand, especially in relation to Health New Zealand's collaboration with healthAlliance and the strides towards digital equity in health services.*

*Health New Zealand and healthAlliance Partnership:*

- 1. Could you elaborate on the current dynamics of the partnership between Health New Zealand and healthAlliance? Specifically, how does this collaboration enhance healthcare delivery and resource management?*
- 2. In what ways does this partnership address the unique health needs of diverse communities across New Zealand?*

*Digital Equity in Healthcare:*

- 3. What specific strategies are in place to ensure equitable access to digital healthcare services, particularly for marginalised or rural communities?*
- 4. How is the Ministry addressing the digital divide that might prevent equitable access to health technologies?*

*Adapting to Emerging Technologies:*

- 5. With the rapid advancements in AI and mobile-first technologies, how is the Ministry ensuring that these tools are being leveraged to improve healthcare delivery while maintaining equitable access?*
- 6. Are there specific initiatives aimed at integrating these technologies in a way that resonates with young people from diverse cultural backgrounds?*

*Monitoring and Evaluation:*

- 7. How does the Ministry monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of these strategies and technological integrations in reducing health inequities?"*

As you may be aware, on 27 June 2022, HealthAlliance was absorbed into Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand by the Health Sector Transfers (District Health Board Shared Services Agencies to Health New Zealand) Order 2022. As such, services provided by the former HealthAlliance are now amalgamated with all other services that were previously provided by former District Health

Boards, for instance, shared-services, agencies, and services transferred from the Ministry (i.e., 29 components combined to form Te Whatu Ora).

The last annual report for HealthAlliance which provides information on services that were provided and have transferred to Te Whatu Ora was for the year ended 30 June 2021. This information is available online at the following link: [parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/PAP\\_121088/a687e04a565e268666236e6e54b28b86483063fa](https://parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/PAP_121088/a687e04a565e268666236e6e54b28b86483063fa).

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Nāku noa, nā



**Rosalie Percival**  
**Chief Financial Officer**