

COVID-19 Chief Executives Board Minutes

Date 26 July 2022
Time 0845 to 1000
Venue MS Teams

Attendance

CCB members

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|---------------------|------|
| Tony Lynch (Chair) | DPMC | Bill Perry | NZC |
| Andrew Kibblewhite | MoJ | Christine Stevenson | NZC |
| Debbie Power | MSD | Stuart Horne | MFAT |
| Mac Leauanae | MPP | Tania Ott | PSC |
| Caralee McLeish | TSY | Una Jagose | CLO |
| Carolyn Tremain | MBIE | Dr Diana Sarfati | MoH |

Apologies

| | | | |
|-------------------|------|--------------|-----|
| Brook Barrington | DPMC | Peter Hughes | PSC |
| Ashley Bloomfield | | Tania Ott | PSC |

In attendance

| | | | |
|-------------------|------|----------------|------|
| Ruth Fairhall | DPMC | Alice Hume | DPMC |
| Rachel Sutherland | DPMC | Julie Knauf | DPMC |
| Aaron Wright | DPMC | Ben McBride | DPMC |
| Amber Bill | DPMC | Carol Douglass | DPMC |
| Hamish Rogers | DPMC | Chloe Thompson | DPMC |
| Jess Gray | DPMC | Jack Manning | DPMC |
| Rob Huddart | DPMC | | |

Agenda and apologies

1. Tony Lynch, Acting Chair of the COVID-19 Chief Executives' Board (CCB), welcomed participants to the discussion and noted apologies for Ashley Bloomfield, Peter Hughes and Tania Ott. The Chair acknowledged the Director-Generals leadership in his absence, noting that his tenure as Director-General is soon about to close.

Roundtable: Update on the COVID-19 Response

2. Dr Diana Sarfati introduced Andrew Old, the new Deputy Director-General of the Public Health Agency, who updated the members on the ongoing health response. Dr Sarfati briefed that the Omicron subvariant BA 5 is still likely to become the dominant variant, with over 90% of cases expected to be BA 5 by August. The health system remains under considerable pressure, and the Chair noted the announcements made by the Minister recently of increased antiviral access, and free masks and rapid antigen tests under certain conditions.
3. The Chair noted that the close work being undertaken by Health with Te Whatu Ora on the system readiness exercise, schedule for the 9th of August. This will provide a helpful opportunity to establish roles and responsibilities beyond the DPMC-led All-Of-Government approach.
4. Debbie Power began her update with Care in the Community, noting the increased number of referrals, trending in lockstep with the increase in cases. Debbie talked to the impact of cost-of-living pressures on health welfare needs. The Social Wellbeing Board is conducting analysis into the “lag effect” of COVID-19 cases, which will be brought to the CCB at the next meeting.
5. Christine Stevenson updated the group on border settings. New Zealand is at Step 5 of its Reconnecting New Zealanders Plan, with Immigration NZ managing their capacity well. The Maritime Border reopens on the 31st of July. Poor weather means that small seacrafts are not expected to return to considerable numbers until October. Cruise ships will start in meaningful numbers in the second week of October, although a recent outbreak on the Pacific Explorer on the 18th of July was noted.
6. With a foot and mouth disease outbreak occurring in Indonesia, work is underway to see whether or not the NZTD can be of use in mitigating the risk of spread. Carolyn Tremain updated the group on the closure of the last 3 MIQ facilities this week. The group discussed the ability of automated systems to hold up under sustained stress, such as the NZTD, now that MIQ facilities have closed. Global pressures on labour and skills in the medical sector mean that New Zealand is competing for scarce resources.
7. Ruth Fairhall updated the group on the All of Government response to COVID-19. Advertisements and other communications will be front-loaded for this winter. The group discussed the communications to employees regarding working from home and staying home when sick. A Cabinet Paper will be submitted at the end of August, providing a follow up from the post winter strategy. Work is underway on the new pandemic legislative framework to replace the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act when it expires in May 2023.

Draft paper for Minister for COVID-19 Response: Assurance on system readiness to respond to a new variant of concern

8. The Chair noted the importance of providing Cabinet with assurance that the transition to the future legislative framework will be smooth and orderly. Rachel Sutherland briefed the group on her draft paper:

- 8.1. The Catalogue of Measures for the National Management Plan, which outlines the operational details for the measures available to manage COVID-19, will be updated to reflect the baseline and response measures in line with the post-winter strategy. The Board heard that if Chief Executives would like their report-backs reflected in this paper, to please get in touch with Rachel Sutherland.
 - 8.2. The Chair will circulate a letter to Chief Executives, outlining the measures they are responsible for, and seeking confirmation of agency readiness.
 - 8.3. The Board held a discussion on the item, including the communication plan with iwi through the transition away from the COVID-19 Protection Framework, noting that DPMC is trying to schedule a meeting with the PRG this week or next week to discuss the upcoming CPF colour review and to discuss the August Cabinet paper.
 - 8.4. The Board noted the readiness assurance paper to Minister Verrall should define the approach to economic supports, should a variant of concern emerge. **Action: Rachel will link in with the Treasury team on working to include in the readiness assurance paper.**
 - 8.5. The Board agreed that a regular 6-month readiness exercise would be welcome and agreed the proposal can be included in the paper to Minister Verrall.
9. The Chair thanked Rachel for her update.

Move from the COVID-19 Protection Framework to Baseline and Reserve Measures

10. The Chair invited Aaron Wright to present on this item:
- 10.1. The Board heard that Aaron is responsible for the readiness exercise in early August and that he should be contacted should they have any questions or comments.
 - 10.2. The Board heard about previous transitions to new strategies and frameworks. To mitigate the risk of a scenario with a short window between agreement by Cabinet and implementation, preparation is the primary priority. The Board heard that Aaron is seeking views on the areas of focus identified in the paper for the transition to the new strategy (Policy and Strategy, Legislation, Communications and Public Engagement, Sector guidance, Readiness reporting and exercise).
 - 10.3. The Board discussed the need to bring winter-wellness and mask wearing communications in line with post-winter strategy communications. The Board discussed the flow-on effects of transitioning to a new strategy on employment legislation and obligations and to the understanding of sectors and the wider public of what the rules are.
 - 10.4. **Action: The Board will pick this the discussion on the move to Baseline and Reserve Measures in the next meeting, particularly as clarity is gained or decisions are taken.**

DPMC COVID-19 Group Transition: Update

11. The Chair invited Carol Douglass to present on this item:
- 11.1. The Board heard that there is a paper due to Ministers with Powers to Act in September. This paper will go through the Board during an August meeting.

12. **Action: The Chair requested that an update is provided at each Board meeting on the DPMC COVID-19 Group Transition.**

COVID-19 Transition - Success and Risk Framework

- 13. The Chair invited Rachel Sutherland to present on this item:
 - 13.1. The Board heard that the transition exercise in August touches on areas in the success and risk framework.
 - 13.2. The Board discussed some of these risk areas, including the transition of legal framework and impact on employment legislation and support measures.
- 14. The Chair invited the Board members to provide additional feedback to Rachel, as required.

Report on Insights from Recommendations across COVID-19 Response System Reviews

- 15. The Chair noted the insights from the System Reviews' recommendations and noted that the Office of the Auditor General will be tabling their report soon. The Chair noted that an inquiry into the COVID-19 response is likely, and while the scope and details of this inquiry are unknown at this time, Board members were encouraged to reflect on how such an inquiry should be approached.
- 16. The Board discussed the process of conducting reviews, capturing recommendations, and oversight of the response. The Board heard that many recommendations were superseded or were from a point-in-time, and that responsible agencies will need to close off any items that are still open.
- 17. The Chair agreed that no further reporting will be done in this area. Noting that with the transition plan of the COVID-19 Group, the capacity to provide further reporting is diminished and that the ownership and responsibilities for recommendations should sit back with responsible agencies.

Other Business

- 18. The Chair and Board agreed to the meeting minutes.
- 19. The Chair asked the Secretariat to distribute the Terms of Reference and closed the meeting.

| Action Log # | Mtg date | Action | Due date | Responsibility |
|--------------|----------|---|----------|------------------|
| 100 | 26 July | Rachel Sutherland will link in with the Treasury team on working to include in the readiness assurance paper. | 23 Aug | DPMC |
| 101 | 26 July | The Board will pick this the discussion on the move to Baseline and Reserve Measures in the next meeting, particularly as clarity is gained or decisions are taken. | 23 Aug | DPMC/Secretariat |
| 102 | 26 July | The Chair requested that an update is provided at each Board meeting on the DPMC COVID-19 Group Transition | 23 Aug | DPMC/Secretariat |

DRAFT
Release under the Official Information Act 1982

COVID-19 Chief Executives Board Minutes

Date 23 August 2022
Time 0830 to 0935
Venue MS Teams

Attendance

CCB members

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|---------------------|-------------|
| Tony Lynch (Chair) | DPMC | Brook Barrington | DPMC |
| Andrew Kibblewhite | MoJ | Christine Stevenson | NZC |
| Debbie Power | MSD | Glenn Webber | Te Arawhiti |
| Caralee McLeish | TSY | Una Jagose | CLO |
| Carolyn Tremain | MBIE | Dr Diana Sarfati | MoH |
| Dr Andrew Old | MoH | Bryan Dunne | PSC |
| Ruth Fairhall | DPMC | Stuart Horne | MFAT |

Apologies

| | | | |
|------------|------|--------------|-----|
| Chris Seed | MFAT | Peter Hughes | PSC |
|------------|------|--------------|-----|

In attendance

| | | | |
|--------------|------|-----------------|------|
| Julie Knauf | DPMC | Alice Hume | DPMC |
| Aaron Wright | DPMC | Carol Douglass | DPMC |
| Amber Bill | DPMC | Paul Ballantyne | DPMC |
| Rae Nathan | DPMC | Jack Manning | DPMC |

Agenda and apologies

1. Tony Lynch, Chair of the COVID-19 Chief Executives' Board (CCB), welcomed participants. The Chair congratulated Ruth Fairhall on her appointment to DPMC's Policy Advisory Group (PAG) and thanked her for her leadership of the COVID-19 Group since Cheryl Barnes finished.
2. The Chair noted that the secretariat had updated the CCB distribution list and asked that any further changes be advised.

Update: Public health response

3. Dr Andrew Old provided an update on the public health response. Dr Old advised that weekly case numbers were continuing to fall and are now sitting below 1 per thousand in population. Hospitalisations and deaths are trending downwards also. Modelling suggests that this trajectory could continue through to the end of 2022. The potential risk of a new

variant was noted, which would impact the Ministry's expectations for case number trajectory.

4. The BA.5 variant remains dominant, representing 90% of sequenced cases.
5. The Ministry conducted a Public Health Risk Assessment (PHRA) exercise last week, looking at all remaining measures, to inform advice being finalised by the Director General before being sent to Ministers.
6. Dr Diana Sarfati noted that DPMC have been kept regularly updated on the Public Health Risk Assessment to help inform the upcoming Cabinet paper on the Post Winter Strategy.
7. Dr Old provided an overview of the recommendations from the PHRA. A discussion was had on the impact on businesses, self-isolation requirements, and the New Zealand Traveller Declaration.
8. Alice Hume advised that the Cabinet Paper on the Post Winter Strategy was expected to be considered on 5 September. It would be important that changes coming out of Cabinet were clearly communicated. Alice also noted that there would legal work to give effect to the measures associated with the agreed changes.
9. Christine Stevenson flagged that the legislative basis for the operation of the New Zealand Traveller Declaration would also be impacted by the changes.

Update: Care in the Community

10. The Chair invited Debbie Power to provide an update on the Care in the Community response to COVID-19.
11. Care in the Community support is tied to isolation settings, and as such, if Cabinet agree changes to the requirements and settings it will heavily impact who receives support. It will also take time to implement, and any changes to isolation requirements will require advice from the Ministry of Social Development to be provided to Ministers.
12. A discussion was had on community connectors service and provision of food supports to those who meet the eligibility criteria.
13. Regional Public Service Commissioners (RPSCs) were given funding to provide regional leadership relating to COVID-19. Minister Hipkins as Minister for Public Service will be providing Cabinet with a paper later this year on the long-term settings for the RPSCs and funding arrangements.

Update: System readiness exercise

14. The Chair invited Aaron Wright to provide an update on the outcomes of a COVID-19 system readiness exercise that took place on 9 August.
15. An ancillary outcome of the exercise was that it helped to inform the design of the health operating model.
16. The exercise had good representation across the public sector. Findings of the exercise include that the system is practiced in operationalising complex response measures, acknowledging that advising Ministers on these response options and operationalising the decisions would be challenging. The exercise also canvassed the importance of aligned and integrated communications to the public on the decisions taken by Ministers.
17. The Chair invited feedback from the CCB on the draft briefing for Ministers and on the exercise itself.
18. A roundtable discussion was had on the processes and approaches to provide integrated, joined-up advice to Ministers and the importance of being ready to call upon key individuals

who could lead a response to a variant of concern, should that be needed. Board members acknowledged that there are contextual factors to consider in advice to Ministers on response options such as the mis and disinformation landscape.

19. CCB members discussed the role of Chief Executives in ensuring not only their individual agency's readiness, but how well integrated the response would be. Importance of system integration was stressed.

Update: COVID-19 System Transition work

20. The Chair invited Carol Douglass to provide an update on the COVID-19 System Transition work.
21. Carol updated the CCB that the plan for the coming week is to understand which roles may transition to the receiving agencies and the transfer of supplier contracts. It was noted that CCB should retain oversight of the transition of the policy and strategy function given the need to ensure all-of government views were incorporated into advice.

COVID-19 Response Measures and assurance of readiness

22. The Chair invited Amber Bill to provide an update on work undertaken to document the measures which have been used to manage New Zealand's response to COVID-19.
23. This is an important resource for Chief Executives to support their agencies readiness to respond to future variants of concern.
24. The importance of an integrated response was underlined. Regular tabletop exercises would be useful to support system integration.

COVID-19 Transition – Success and Risk Framework

25. The Chair briefly noted the Success and Risk Framework, which the CCB has canvassed in previous discussions. CCB members were asked to continue to consider risks.

COVID-19 Transition – Legal Framework

26. The Chair invited Alice Hume to provide an update on the future of the COVID-19 legal framework. Alice told the Board that Ministers made the decision in July in the Post-Winter Strategy paper for the direction of travel for the COVID-19 response: namely to provide for a disease agnostic emergency epidemic legislative framework to ensure the right legislative powers and instruments are available to support our medium and longer-term management of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. The Minister has subsequently made the decision to extend the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act (COVID-19 Act), and DPMC have provided the Minister with initial advice on how to extend the Act, including recommendations of timelines. The Minister has indicated a preference for a two-year extension.
27. DPMC are preparing a Cabinet paper for consideration by the Social Wellbeing Committee on the 14th of September for the Minister's preferred option.
28. A discussion was had on the interim changes that were required to legislation in the case of an extension to the current COVID-19 Act.

Minutes and Action Points

- 29. The Chair thanked Christine Stevenson for clarification on last meeting's minutes and closed the actions on the Action Log.
- 30. The Chair noted the next meeting will take place in either four weeks, or if necessary, in two weeks. The Chair will confirm with CCB membership closer to the date if this meeting will be called.

Meeting ended 9:35am

| Action Log # | Mtg date | Action | Due date | Responsibility |
|--------------|----------|--------|----------|----------------|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

DRAFT
Release under the Official Information Act 1982

COVID-19 Chief Executives Board Minutes

Date 06 September 2022
Time 1500 to 1545
Venue MS Teams

Attendance

CCB members

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|---------------------|-------------|
| Tony Lynch (Chair) | DPMC | Brook Barrington | DPMC |
| Andrew Kibblewhite | MoJ | Christine Stevenson | NZC |
| Debbie Power | MSD | Glenn Webber | Te Arawhiti |
| Carolyn Tremain | MBIE | Dr Diana Sarfati | MoH |
| Dr Andrew Old | MoH | Bryan Dunne | PSC |
| John Beaglehole | TSY | Stuart Horne | MFAT |

Apologies

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|---------------|-----------|
| Chris Seed | MFAT | Una Jagose | Crown Law |
| Caralee McLeish | TSY | Ruth Fairhall | DPMC |
| Mac Leauanae | MPP | Peter Hughes | PSC |

In attendance

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------|-----------------|------|
| Aaron Wright | DPMC | Alice Hume | DPMC |
| Jessica Gorman | Crown Law | Carol Douglass | DPMC |
| Hayden Glass | DPMC | Paul Ballantyne | DPMC |
| Jack Manning | DPMC | | |

Agenda and apologies

Meeting STARTS: 3:00PM

1. Tony Lynch, Chair of the COVID-19 Chief Executives' Board (CCB), welcomed participants.

Update: Epidemic notice

2. The Chair invited Dr Diana Sarfati to speak to provide the CCB with an update on the epidemic notice.
3. Diana provided an update: MOH considers we are in a transition period, with cases and hospitalisations tracking downwards. A discussion was had on the requirement threshold for an epidemic notice to be renewed, the appetite of the Government to retain protective

measures in the short term, and the disruption that would be caused by lifting measures. Public health advice will be to extend the epidemic notice for 4-5 weeks, followed by a Public Health Risk Assessment (PHRA).

4. This PHRA will inform advice that either all COVID-19 requirements will be lifted, or a section 8(c) order could be made by the Prime Minister allowing orders to be made. Crown Law has been involved in the drafting of these orders.
5. Christine Stevenson provided an update on the New Zealand Traveller Declaration.
6. A discussion was also had on the economic impact of COVID-19 response decisions, and the perception that being at "Orange" level of the COVID-19 Protection Framework creates for international tourism and business.
7. *Note: Glenn Webber joined 3:20 pm.*

Update: Post-Winter Strategy Cabinet paper

8. The Chair invited Alice Home to speak to the CCB on the Post-Winter Strategy Cabinet paper.
9. Alice provided an update:
 - 9.1. The post-winter strategy paper was considered at SWC on 31 September and at Cabinet on 5 September, with in principle decisions made.
 - 9.2. Final decisions will be made at Cabinet on 12 September. This is a significant move with implications across public communications.
10. A discussion was had on the options provided to Cabinet, and the role of self-isolation for cases and contacts, the border, and mask and vaccine mandates and guidance. Many measures will transition from "required" to "encouraged".
11. Alice outlined the engagement undertaken with the National Iwi Chairs' Forum and the New Zealand Māori Council on the proposed upcoming changes and on the release of briefings relating to the actions taken to address the findings and recommendations of the Waitangi Tribunal's Haumarū report.
12. Agreement has also been sought to give airlines notice of the decisions taken by Cabinet.

COVID-19 Community Panel, Chair's Report

13. The Chair noted the Chair's Report of the COVID-19 Community Paper and encouraged members to look at findings and commentary from Sarah Sparks.

Update: DPMC COVID-19 Group Transition

14. The Chair invited Carol Douglass to provide an update to the CCB on the COVID-19 Transition.
15. Carol provided an update: Due diligence discussions with receiving agencies are going well. Work is underway on clarifying the appropriation transfers sought. It is looking likely that some functions could move to the Public Health Agency of the Ministry of Health in October, following Ministers decisions.
16. DPMC is drafting the briefing to Ministers with powers to act on the DPMC COVID-19 Group transition and working closely with receiving agencies and the Treasury in this process. At this stage, the briefing to Ministers will be provided at the end of September.
17. **ACTION:** Distribute draft briefing to Ministers with powers to act on the DPMC COVID-19 Group transition to CCB members for the 20th September meeting.

Minutes and action points

- 18. Minutes of 6 September CCB meeting agreed
- 19. The Chair proposed that the CCB go ahead with its scheduled meeting on the 20th of September.

Meeting ENDS: 3:35PM

| Action Log # | Mtg date | Action | Due date | Responsibility |
|--------------|-------------------|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| 103 | 06 September 2022 | Distribute draft briefing to Ministers with powers to act on the DPMC COVID-19 Group transition to CCB members for the 20 th September meeting. | 20 September 2022 | DPMC / Secretariat |

COVID-19 Chief Executives Board Minutes

Date 20 September 2022
Time 0830 to 0930
Venue MS Teams

Attendance

CCB members

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|---------------------|-------------|
| Tony Lynch (Chair) | DPMC | Brook Barrington | DPMC |
| Rajesh Chhana | MoJ | Christine Stevenson | NZC |
| Debbie Power | MSD | Kelly Dunn | Te Arawhiti |
| Dr Andrew Old | MoH | Dr Diana Sarfati | MoH |
| John Beaglehole | TSY | Bryan Dunne | PSC |
| Ruth Fairhall | DPMC | Stuart Horne | MFAT |

Apologies

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|--------------------|-------------|
| Chris Seed | MFAT | Carolyn Tremain | MBIE |
| Caralee McLeish | TSY | Andrew Kibblewhite | MoJ |
| Mac Leauanae | MPP | Glenn Webber | Te Arawhiti |
| Peter Hughes | PSC | | |

In attendance

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|------|
| Margie Apa | Te Whatu Ora | Alice Hume | DPMC |
| Aaron Wright | DPMC | Paul Ballantyne | DPMC |
| Richard Schmidt | DPMC | Carol Douglass | DPMC |
| Jack Manning | DPMC | Katrina Casey | DPMC |
| Julie Knauf | DPMC | Hamish Rogers | DPMC |
| Hayden Glass | DPMC | Rae Nathan | DPMC |

Agenda and apologies

Meeting STARTS: 8:30AM

1. Tony Lynch, Chair of the COVID-19 Chief Executives' Board (the Board), welcomed participants.

Roundtable: Update on the COVID-19 Response

2. Debbie Power provided an update on the Care in the Community work programme. Updated guidance has been provided to community providers in light of the retiring of the COVID-19 Protection Framework. MSD will provide advice to Ministers on funding options for Care in the Community.

- Christine Stevenson provided an update on the New Zealand Travel Declaration, including recent advice to the Minister on the future of the NZTD. Christine also provided an update on the operations of border agencies and the volume of air travel, which are expected to recover to pre-COVID-19 levels.
- Ruth Fairhall provided an update on the All-of-Government work programme. A Cabinet paper regarding the long-term legislative framework for managing COVID-19 is currently out for ministerial consultation, and will be presented to the Social Wellbeing Cabinet Committee next week.

Update: Post-Winter Announcement

- The Chair invited Alice Hume to provide an update to the Board on the Post-Winter Announcement.
- Since the announcement from the Prime Minister and Minister for COVID-19 Response last week, discomfort across vulnerable communities has been noted. Consultation with Treaty partners such as the National Iwi Chairs Forum has taken place ahead of announcements on a no surprises basis.
- The Public Health Risk Assessments informs the evidence base critical to providing informed advice to Ministers. A discussion was had on how these Assessments fit into the decision making process.

Update: DPMC COVID-19 Group Transition

- The Chair invited Carol Douglass to provide an update on the COVID-19 Group Transition work.
- Carol spoke to the Draft Briefing to Ministers with powers to act on the Group Transition, including the timeline for the transfer of specific functions. A discussion was had on the process of transferring contracts from DPMC to other agencies, and how capability is retained during transition.

Process for renewal of the epidemic notice

- The Chair invited Alice Hume to update the Board on the process to renew the epidemic notice before 20 October.
- Alice noted that the Minister for COVID-19 Response has received advice on the process for renewal and outlined the proposed timetable.

Meeting ENDS: 9:12AM

| Action Log # | Mtg date | Action | Due date | Responsibility |
|--------------|----------|--------|----------|----------------|
| | | | | |

COVID-19 Chief Executives Board Minutes

Date 11 October 2022
Time 0830 to 0930
Venue MS Teams

Attendance

CCB members

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|---------------------|-----------|
| Tony Lynch (Chair) | DPMC | Brook Barrington | DPMC |
| Andrew Kibblewhite | MoJ | Christine Stevenson | NZC |
| Debbie Power | MSD | Abba Fidow | MPP |
| Dr Andrew Old | MoH | Dr Diana Sarfati | MoH |
| John Beaglehole | TSY | Bryan Dunne | PSC |
| Oliver Valins | MBIE | Una Jagose | Crown Law |

Apologies

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|-----------------|------|
| Chris Seed | MFAT | Carolyn Tremain | MBIE |
| Caralee McLeish | TSY | Mac Leauanae | MPP |
| Peter Hughes | PSC | | |

In attendance

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|----------------|------|
| Aaron Wright | DPMC | Alice Hume | DPMC |
| Fiona Weightman | DPMC | Carol Douglass | DPMC |
| Jack Manning | DPMC | Rae Nathan | DPMC |
| Julie Knaufl | DPMC | Hamish Rogers | DPMC |
| Hayden Glass | DPMC | | |

Agenda and apologies

Meeting STARTS: 8:30AM

1. Tony Lynch, Chair of the COVID-19 Chief Executives' Board (the Board), welcomed participants.

Proposed COVID-19 Public Health Response legislation

2. The Chair invited Alice Hume to provide an update to the Board on the proposal to continue some of the powers currently in the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 for two years, to May 2025.
3. Alice informed the Board that the Cabinet paper containing the proposal will be presented to Cabinet on Monday the 17th of October, with the timing of the Bill to be confirmed. A

policy overview was provided, and a discussion of circumstances and thresholds for reimplementing measures was held.

October review of COVID-19 settings

- 4. The Chair invited Alice Hume and Dr Diana Sarfati to provide an update to the Board on the October review of COVID-19 settings.
- 5. The Public Health Risk Assessment is currently underway, and the COVID-19 Group are working on a paper currently out for ministerial consultation on the review of COVID-19 settings and the Epidemic Notice renewal. This paper will be lodged on Friday.
- 6. The Board discussed the current mandates in place, the recommendations being made regarding the Epidemic Notice, the role of the New Zealand Traveller Declaration, and the impact of the use of powers on the populous.

Update: DPMC COVID-19 Group Transition

- 7. The Chair invited Carol Douglass to provide an update on the COVID-19 Group Transition work.
- 8. DPMC have received approval from Ministers with Powers to Act for the Insights and Reporting (including geospatial analysis and modelling) and Readiness, Response and Planning functions to transition to the Ministry of Health by the end of October. DPMC will now finalise the specific dates in October that the functions will officially transfer, noting that handover discussions are already underway.
- 9. Ministers have agreed that Communications and Public Engagement will transition to the Ministry of Health and Te Whatu Ora by the end of November. Some questions have been raised about the level of funding for communications contracts for services, which DPMC are responding to as a matter of urgency.
- 10. DPMC are commencing due diligence discussions for the transfer of the policy and strategy function to the Ministry of Health. The intention is to have a draft briefing for consideration at a CCB meeting in early November. DPMC will also provide a draft Terms of Reference for the COVID Senior Officials Committee which will be stood up once the DPMC policy and strategy function has transitioned to the Ministry of Health.

All other business

- 11. The Chair proposed to reschedule the next meeting of the Board to Tuesday the 1st of November at 8:30am.

Meeting ENDS: 9:09AM

| Action Log # | Mtg date | Action | Due date | Responsibility |
|--------------|------------|--|------------|----------------|
| 104 | 11/10/2022 | Distribute draft briefing to Ministers with powers to act on the DPMC COVID-19 Group transition to CCB members for the 1 st November meeting. | 01/11/2022 | DPMC |

Release under the Official Information Act 1982