

15 December 2016

Mr Andrew Sweet

fyi-request-4978-e88542d8@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Sweet

Re: Official Information Act request: Funding and contracts for the NZ AIDS Foundation

Thank you for your official information request dated 17 November 2016 for the following information:

"I would like to receive all information you hold, generated on or after 1 January 2016, that is relevant to upcoming decisions in relation to the future funding of the NZ AIDS Foundation, and/or future possible contracts for service with the AIDS Foundation. This should include (but not necessarily be limited to):

- all relevant internal ministry emails, reports and background analysis
- all reports, advice and communications between the ministry and the Minister of Health, Associate Ministers of Health, or their staff
- all correspondence, or notes relating to verbal discussions, between the ministry and the NZAF or other external agencies."

Six documents have been identified as being in scope of your request and are being provided to you. These documents are outlined in **Table 1**. No information has been withheld or redacted.

If you have any queries regarding the Ministry's response please contact Manaia King, Manager Chronic Diseases Prevention, Service Commissioning, on 09 580 9119.

You have the right, under Section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decisions.

Yours sincerely


Jill Lane
Director
Service Commissioning

Table 1 – Information provided.

Date	Database reference	Attachment
16/03/2016	Email response	Re: Fw: NZAF Charging for Counselling
03/05/2016	Email response	Fw: Follow up to NZAF ASHM meeting with Minister
05/05/2016	Email response	Response Letter to Shaun Robinson – Link
17/06/2016	Email response	RE: One off additional funding to Launch Ending HIV campaign
08/06/2016	Email response	Re: One off additional funding to Launch Ending HIV campaign
28/11/2016	Meeting file notes	File notes NZAF meetings



Sent by: Manaia
King/MOH

16/03/2016 11:37 a.m.

To: Ngaire Sandel/MOH@MOH,
cc: Jacqui Glazebrook/MOH@MOH,
bcc:

Subject: Re: Fw: NZAF Charging for Counselling

Kia ora Ngaire, this was probably inevitable given the increasing pressure NZAF is under due to the increase in people getting tested. The requirement to provide a pre and post counselling service is in line with best practise but there are no requirements that they be free. If the NZAF sliding scale can take account of affordability and the final cost even once a sliding scale is applied isn't too high then sure I am comfortable with its implementation.

The NZAF will need to build a strong communication plan and key messages around this change as it will no doubt attract attention.

In terms of our reporting, you will need to remind the NZAF that we do report to Government on the percentage of counselling received and that to date NZAF have enjoyed a 100% rate and that we would like to ensure that this remains the same. If however the rate slips then we will need to explain the variance but more importantly what other support individuals may have access to in order to receive counselling/information if they don't receive it through NZAF.

na,

Mr Manaia King
Manager
Chronic Disease Team
Public Health Group
Service Commissioning
Ministry of Health
09 580 9119
021 870 169

Ngaire Sandel

Kia ora Manaia Just to follow up when you're back please.

14/03/2016 01:07:58 p.m.

From: Ngaire Sandel/MOH
To: Manaia King/MOH@MOH,
Cc: Jacqui Glazebrook/MOH@MOH
Date: 14/03/2016 01:07 p.m.
Subject: Fw: NZAF Charging for Counselling

Kia ora Manaia

Just to follow up when you're back please. Not sure of the implications a potential charge for counselling will have to our regular reporting? I've copied the narrative I added in last year. If clients decline based on costs I guess we will just reflect that in the report with a narrative to accompany?

New Zealand AIDS Foundation	The percentage of all clients tested for HIV/AIDS are provided with a pre and post counselling session	100%
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Narrative:

Re: testing

NZAF achieved 100% rates for clients for pre and post counselling however they have had to develop a waiting list as there are too many clients seeking testing for them to be able to respond promptly due to budget pressures. This carries high risks as it creates access barriers and potentially delays a diagnosis thus contributes to potential for increasing HIV through unprotected sex. The wait times for access to testing requires monitoring.

cheers

Ngaire Sandel
Portfolio Manager

National Health Board
Ministry of Health
DDI: 07 9293634
Fax: (07) 839 2825
<http://www.health.govt.nz>
mailto:Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz
----- Forwarded by Ngaire Sandel/MOH on 14/03/2016 01:03 p.m. -----

From: Shaun Robinson <Shaun.Robinson@nzaf.org.nz>
To: "Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz" <Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz>,
Cc: "Manaia Paki King (manaia_king@moh.govt.nz)" <manaia_king@moh.govt.nz>
Date: 11/03/2016 03:38 p.m.
Subject: NZAF Charging for Counselling

Kia ora Ngaire – I wanted to give you a heads up that NZAF is considering introducing a sliding scale of charges for our counselling. the financial constraints of growing demand for all our services and funding increases that have come well short of compensating for inflation mean that we are facing a third year of planning for deficit budgets and we need to find new sources of income. our contract specifies that testing, risk assessment and pre and post- test education must be free and this will continue but it does not specify that counselling above and above this must be free.

We are anticipating introducing a sliding scale of fees so that no-one is denied access due to affordability issues.

counselling literature and practise supports the concept that clients are more engaged with counselling if they are valuing it by part payment. this is supported unanimously by our therapists and counsellors.

No final decisions have been made at this time and I wanted to give you ample opportunity to raise any questions or concerns with me.

regards

Shaun Robinson
Executive Director

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New Zealand AIDS Foundation
- Te Tūāpapa Mate Āraikore o Aotearoa

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Date

Shaun Robinson
Executive Director
New Zealand AIDS Foundation
AUCKLAND

Dear Shaun,

Thank you for meeting Minister Kaye and myself on the 30 March and for your subsequent follow up email on 27 April.

The Government continues to support the national role that the New Zealand AIDS Foundation (NZAF) provides in relation to preventing HIV/AIDS. Whilst the Government understands the pressures that NZAF have described, as you will appreciate, there are many factors that the Government needs to weigh up when deciding where to allocate any new funding. I've noted the issues you've raised and I have forwarded your email to Ministry of Health officials for their consideration.

In terms of the GAPSS survey, I understand there are ongoing discussions between the University and Ministry officials.

The Government is keeping a watching brief of other countries use of PReP. The Ministry of Health has advised me that, for the time being the focus should remain on facilitating and promoting the use of condoms and social marketing messages as the primary preventative measures in New Zealand. I would encourage NZAF to continue to speak with potential partners in relation to the demonstration project but I am unable to commit any funding to this at this time.

As you will be aware, the Government has initiated the development of a cross sector sexual and reproductive health action plan and I encourage NZAF to contribute to this piece of work.

Regards

Jonathan Coleman
Minister of Health

To:
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Response Letter to Shaun Robinson - Link

Manaia King

Mr Manaia King Manager

15/12/2016 02:29:23 p.m.


From: Manaia King/MOH
To: Grant Pollard/MOH@MOH,
Cc: Colin Charan/MOH@MOH
Date: 05/05/2016 02:20 p.m.
Subject: Response Letter to Shaun Robinson - Link

Kia ora Grant,

Here is the draft response requested by Michael Johnson to Shaun Robinson. Thought we would get this off our to do list before it got lost.

The response has been reviewed by Colin, Jo and Ngaire.

Grant Storey has contributed towards it in terms of the GAPPS survey.

	Date	Author	Title
	03/05/2016	Manaia King	Response Letter to Shaun Robinson

na,

Mr Manaia King
Manager
Chronic Diseases
Public Health
National Services Purchasing
Service Commissioning
Ministry of Health
DDI: 09 580 9119
Mobile: 021 870 169
Fax: 09 580 9001

mailto:manaia_king@moh.govt.nz



Sent by: Grant
Pollard/MOH

28/04/2016 05:09 p.m.

To: Manaia King/MOH@MOH,
cc: Ngaire Sandel/MOH@MOH, Colin Charan/MOH@MOH, Shanelle
Haiselden/MOH@MOH, Michael.Johnson@parliament.govt.nz,
bcc:

Subject: Fw: Follow up to NZAF ASHM meeting with Minister

Kia ora Manaia,

Can your team please draft up a response to the issues raised in the email below from Shaun Robinson. Did I see that Shaun was leaving the Foundation?

Regards
Grant Pollard
Group Manager
Public Health
National Services Purchasing
Service Commissioning
Ministry of Health
DDI: 04 816 3428
Mobile: 021914152

<http://www.health.govt.nz>
mailto:Grant_Pollard@MOH.govt.nz

----- Forwarded by Grant Pollard MOH on 28/04/2016 05:06 p.m. -----

From: Michael Johnson <Michael.Johnson@parliament.govt.nz>
To: Grant Pollard <grant_pollard@moh.govt.nz>
Date: 27/04/2016 11:21 a.m.
Subject: FW: Follow up to NZAF ASHM meeting with Minister

Hi Grant

Hope all well.

Minister Coleman met with NZAF recently where they raised a number of issues below. Can we shape up a draft response that I can send to them

Cheers

Michael.

From: Shaun Robinson [mailto:Shaun.Robinson@nzaf.org.nz]
Sent: Wednesday, 27 April 2016 9:47 a.m.
To: Michael Johnson
Cc: Nick Laing
Subject: Follow up to NZAF ASHM meeting with Minister

Greetings Michael, I hope you had a good time away.

It was very good to meet you when NZAF and ASHM met with Ministers Coleman and Kaye on 30th March. As I mentioned briefly after the meeting there are several pragmatic issues that I would like to draw to your attention (I appreciate that you have already engaged with PHARMAC on our behalf re supply of condoms).

NZAF Funding - The MoH has made a case for an increase in our funding for each of the last three years on the basis of the increased scope and scale of the HIV epidemic and the costs associated with our need to respond (Mania Paki King and Ngairi Sandel are the main contacts). While a small increase of \$60kpa was achieved in 2015 this is not sufficient to make up for failure to provide CPI funding adjustments since 2008 or the growing cost of responding to a rising epidemic and the scale-up needed to end it. For example our HIV testing volumes have increased by more than 50% in five years, which is great for HIV prevention and care, but which has increased our operating costs for this part of the programme. In a similar vein our increased distribution of condoms also requires increased distribution of lubricant which is not funded by PHARMAC. As another example, the growing ethnic diversity of New Zealand is also reflected in men who have sex with men and we have seen a significant rise in Asian men acquiring HIV in the last five years. To respond to this we have employed an Asian worker and developed an outreach programme, which again increases costs. As a result (and despite considerable cost efficiencies achieved over the five year period) NZAF has been operating at \$150-180k deficit for two years and anticipates the same level of deficit in 2016/17. This cannot be sustained and programme costs will have to be cut in 2017/18. Given the significant cost benefit from preventing HIV infections, a reduction in our programme would be counter-productive and costly. Any attention that the Ministers office could pay to the MoH case for our increased funding would be much appreciated.

Gay Auckland Periodic Sex Survey (GAPSS) - a core part of any national programme to address HIV is longitudinal behaviour monitoring. In New Zealand this has been provided by the GAPSS research which is conducted every two years by Dr Peter Saxton from Auckland University School of Population Health. Data gathering occurs around the annual Big Gay Out event in Feb. The MoH contracts with Auckland University to provide this research (Grant Story has been the main point of contact). Unfortunately the current restructuring at MoH has interrupted the contracting process. While I am optimistic that the MoH would not want to end the GAPSS research, the delay in contracting significantly impacts the lead times. Dr Saxton is on contract to the University and his employment is contingent on successful negotiation of the GAPSS contract. The programme also needs many months lead time to gain ethics approvals and then prepare the data gathering operation which includes recruiting and training volunteers. In a small country like ours the expertise in a field such as HIV is very narrowly held. It would be a major setback if GAPSS did not proceed and/or if Dr Saxton was lost to the sector. If there is any way in which the Ministers office can help to provide assurances to Auckland University about the intention to continue the GAPSS programme that would be very helpful.

Pre - Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Demonstration Project - while increased testing and immediate access to treatment is the priority new development in a programme to prevent HIV, the use of PrEP also has very strong potential to reduce infections. As a means to test this proposition in New Zealand and to provide data which can inform PHARMAC decisions and MoH policy, NZAF has been working with Auckland DHB Sexual Health Service to establish a PrEP demonstration project. The project is unfunded and, despite cash and/or kind contributions from the partner agencies, there remains a \$150k funding gap. Any advice you might have as to how this funding gap could be met would be gratefully received.

Thank you for being willing to engage with the NZAF around these and other issues. We continue to believe that the potential to end HIV infections within a decade is very real, provided there is policy and funding support for the tools to make this happen.

regards

Shaun Robinson
Executive Director

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[NZAF] <file:///\\NZAF-FS\Home\ShaunR\Add-in%20Express>

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image001.jpg

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Sent by: Ngaire
Sandel/MOH

17/06/2016 10:28 a.m.

To: Nick Laing <Nick.Laing@nzaf.org.nz>,
cc:
bcc:

Subject: RE: One off additional funding to Launch Ending HIV campaign

Hi Nick

that would be great maybe sometime the week of the 25th July? Shall I send you through some RBA templates to familiarise with so we can follow up with any queries when we meet?

cheers

Ngaire Sandel
Portfolio Manager
National Health Board
Ministry of Health
DDI: 07 9293634
Fax: (07) 839 2825
<http://www.health.govt.nz>
mailto:Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz

Nick Laing

Hi Ngaire. Thanks for this. Yes it w

17/06/2016 09:33:13 a.m

From: Nick Laing <Nick.Laing@nzaf.org.nz>
To: "Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz" <Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz>,
Cc: "jo_elvidge@moh.govt.nz" <jo_elvidge@moh.govt.nz>, "Manaia_King@moh.govt.nz" <Manaia_King@moh.govt.nz>
Date: 17/06/2016 09:33 a.m.
Subject: RE: One off additional funding to Launch Ending HIV campaign

Hi Ngaire,

Thanks for this. Yes it would be great to have a meeting when Jason is on board. He starts on the 17 July so we could schedule a meeting now if you like and I can put it in his calendar. Let me know if that suits.

Cheers,

Nick

From: Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz [mailto:Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz]

Sent: Monday, 13 June 2016 2:08 p.m.

To: Nick Laing

Cc: jo_elvidge@moh.govt.nz; Manaia_King@moh.govt.nz

Subject: Re: One off additional funding to Launch Ending HIV campaign

Kia ora Nick

Unfortunately as we have discussed there is no new funding available to us, so the communications strategy will have to be planned with this in mind. I am happy to follow up at a face to face meeting -maybe we can schedule this for when Jason takes up his new post? I am keen to catch up and go over potential issues this may pose and what is possible to address these and any other emerging risks. As we are also approaching contract negotiations for 2017 this may be timely.

kind regards

Ngaire Sandel
Portfolio Manager
National Health Board

Ministry of Health
DDI: 07 9293634
Fax: (07) 839 2825
<http://www.health.govt.nz>
mailto:Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz

From: Nick Laing <Nick.Laing@nzaf.org.nz>
To: "Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz" <Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz>,
Cc: "Manaia_King@moh.govt.nz" <Manaia_King@moh.govt.nz>, "jo_elvidge@moh.govt.nz" <jo_elvidge@moh.govt.nz>
Date: 03/06/2016 12:04 p.m.
Subject: One off additional funding to Launch Ending HIV campaign

Hi Ngaire,

As discussed over the phone we are planning for the launch of the Ending HIV campaign which aligns with the combination HIV prevention strategy communicating the role of condoms, testing and treatment and Prep in ending new HIV transmissions. In order to launch this first phase we estimate that this will cost around \$50K to communicate this as a new brand. This will be a one-off additional spend to launch the brand. Is there any funding available for a one-off project such as this and would it be worth pulling a business case together to put forward for this?

If you could let me know your thoughts regarding this that would be much appreciated.

Thanks,
Nick

Nick Laing
General Manager Operations

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Sent by: Manaia
King/MOH

To: Ngaire Sandel/MOH@MOH,
cc: Jo Elvidge/MOH@MOH,
bcc:

08/06/2016 10:54 a.m.

Subject: Re: One off additional funding to Launch Ending HIV campaign

Kia ora Ngaire, it would be good to further understand how this campaign aligns with Love your condom. Is it an extension of, or supplementary?

Unfortunately there isn't any funding and their budget bid wasn't successful either so they will need to use existing resources to support the launch, but will have to take a broader look at their resources in regards to their other pressures. That however may be a conversation with the new ED.

na,

Mr Manaia King
Manager
Chronic Disease Team
Public Health Group
Service Commissioning
Ministry of Health
09 580 9119
021 870 169

Nick Laing

Hi Ngaire. As discussed over the ph...

03/06/2016 12:04:36 p.m

From: Nick Laing <Nick.Laing@nzaf.org.nz>
To: "Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz" <Ngaire_Sandel@MOH.govt.nz>,
Cc: "Manaia_King@moh.govt.nz" <Manaia_King@moh.govt.nz>, "jo_elvidge@moh.govt.nz" <jo_elvidge@moh.govt.nz>
Date: 03/06/2016 12:04 p.m.
Subject: One off additional funding to Launch Ending HIV campaign

Hi Ngaire,

As discussed over the phone we are planning for the launch of the Ending HIV campaign which aligns with the combination HIV prevention strategy communicating the role of condoms, testing and treatment and Prep in ending new HIV transmissions. In order to launch this first phase we estimate that this will cost around \$50K to communicate this as a new brand. This will be a one-off additional spend to launch the brand. Is there any funding available for a one-off project such as this and would it be worth pulling a business case together to put forward for this?

If you could let me know your thoughts regarding this that would be much appreciated.

Thanks,
Nick

Nick Laing
General Manager Operations

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New Zealand AIDS Foundation

Te Aupōri a Māori Ahua o te Awhiwhi

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FILE NOTE: Meeting with NZAF

19 October 2016

930-1030

- **AGENDA**

Feedback to Strategic Plan in particular the role of PrEP and funding pressures

Meeting with Jason and Nick (NZAF) and with Jo Elvidge and Manaia King and me (MOH)

General feedback provided to the first draft Plan given by MOH in particular the need to ensure NZAF is not advocating illegal use of a pharmaceutical given PrEP is not approved for use as a prophylactic for HIV yet in NZ.

Need to ensure the risks of losing the gains made around condom promotion in NZ is not undermined.

General reformatting may improve readability of current version

No new funding options available.

Ngaire Sandel
Portfolio Manager
Chronic Diseases Team
MOH

FILE NOTE: Meeting with NZAF

ATTENDING: Jason and Nick and me

27 October 2016 1-2pm

- **AGENDA**

Continue of feedback to Strategic Plan

In particular changes made around wording of PrEP and condom use /response to Maori health gain/ clear links to clinical pathways following diagnosis/ nature of support to positive population and general discussions around what core business may look like.

Hui Takataapui plans all on track appears to be a really response from the community and attendance volumes are high.

Redraft of Strat Plan will be sent out after the board approves at next meeting.

Ngaire Sandel
Portfolio Manager
Chronic Diseases Team
MOH