



Minutes of Meeting Northland District Health Board Equity in Hospitals Committee

9.40am, Monday 31 May 2021
Community Services Conference Room, Dargaville Hospital

Present

Mataroria Lyndon (Chair)	Harry Burkhardt	Libby Jones	Vince Cocurullo
Carol Peters	Kyle Eggleton (via zoom)	Ngairae Rae	
Debbie Evans (via zoom)	John Bain	Sally Macauley	

In Attendance

Northland DHB: Nick Chamberlain, Moana Tane, Peter Thomas, Mark McGinley (via zoom), Michael Kelly, Tracey Schiebli, Maree Sheard, Ian McKenzie, Liz Inch, Jeanette Wedding, Pip Zammit, John Wansbone, Kathryn Leydon, Sarah Fox (minutes)

Apologies

There were no apologies.

1. PRESENTATION: Emergency Department Initiatives

The Emergency Department Initiatives presentation was postponed to the 12 July 2021 meeting.

2. COMMITTEE MINUTES

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes 19 April 2021

A typographical error in section 2 of the minutes was noted for correction.

IT WAS MOVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2021 be accepted.

***Libby Jones / Carol Peters
Carried***

1.2 Matters/Actions Arising

Noted.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no report from the Chair.

4. SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

3.1 Operational Report

The GM Medical and Elder Services highlighted the following points from the operational report:

- The hospitals continued to be very busy and at capacity on multiple occasions.
- The Assessment Unit had been open for a short time and was already making a positive impact on patient flow. Work was continuing to enable the unit to be open 24 hours, 7 days a week.
- Planning for the proposed NZNO strike on 9 June 2021 was underway.

- Planning for the stroke unit was being undertaken.
- The Cath Lab had been open since 17 May and the waiting list had been cleared. Assistance had been offered for Auckland DHB patients.
- Great work had been done in Child Health to reduce ASH rates.

There was discussion on the following points:

- Faster cancer treatment waiting times and communication with patients. Patients have a direct contact with a nurse to access information. **Action:** The GM Surgical and Support Services was asked to provide data on the longest and average waiting times for the faster cancer treatment cohort.
- Some of the operational reports required ethnicity data collection. **Action:** The Chair would discuss which reports required ethnicity data with the GM Medical and Elder Services.
- Primary and secondary health care working together in relation to the needs of homeless people and the impact on services, especially overnight. **Action:** Include in ED presentation to 12 July meeting.
- “Better help for smokers to quit – Pregnant Women” health target and what smoking cessation support is available to whānau of pregnant women. A number of initiatives and services exist that include whānau and the community and there is a national focus on social change through the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 programme. It was noted that ‘smoke-free’ does not include vaping and that this is currently one of the approved methods to aid smoking cessation. **Action:** GM Rural, Community and Family to provide a report on initiatives and opportunities for meeting the “Better help for smokers to quit – Pregnant Women” health target for smoking cessation.
- Maternity Health Services. There was concern that staff were not taking meal breaks and there were high leave balances accruing due to busyness on the ward.
- Maternity Health Services. Efforts to improve equity and reduce institutional racism were welcome and progress on training effectiveness was requested. **Action:** GM Rural, Community and Family to report on progress of the work in Maternity Health Services to improve equity and reduce institutional racism
- Endorsement of the increased funding to allow youths to go through the youth court service, instead of the adult service, and there was interest in seeing the effect on waiting times.
- It was noted that only 14% of food was locally sourced and plans to increase this result were requested. **Action:** CFO to request commentary in the next report on examples of what food is locally sourced and what plans are in place to increase the result against target.
- Possible reasons for the increase in electricity consumption this year. **Action:** Report on the increase in electricity consumption compared to 2019-20.
- CCDM review. Northland DHB is performing well and will meet the 31 July 2021 target.
- The Chair asked that the equity policy be reviewed at the next meeting. **Action:** Include a review of the Board’s equity policy in the agenda for the 12 July meeting.

5. NEXT MEETING DETAILS

The next meeting will be 9.00am on Monday 12 July 2021 in the Tangihua room, Whangārei Hospital.

The meeting closed at 10.30am

Confirmed that these minutes constitute a true and correct record of the proceedings of the meeting

CHAIR _____

DATE _____