

MINUTES OF THE SOUTH WAIKATOCOMMUNITY HEALTH FORUM MEETING
Held on Wednesday 24 September 2008, Library Meeting Room, Tokoroa Hospital

<p>Present:</p> <p>Waikato DHB Representatives:</p>	<p>Chair Graewyn O’Sullivan, Ailsa Gathergood, Kaye Walls, Pam Carter, Gwen Robyns, Jan Wiles and Jane Chittenden</p> <p>Grant O’Brien WDHB Project Manager – via Teleconference Amy Thomsen WDHB Communications</p>
<p>Apology:</p>	<p>Margaret Bell</p>
<p>ITEM 1</p>	<p>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS Graewyn O’Sullivan welcomed people to the meeting.</p>
<p>ITEM 2</p>	<p>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: These were taken as read</p> <p>MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising</p>
<p>ITEM 3</p>	<p>WAIKATO DHB UPDATE Grant O’Brien attended for this item via teleconference and updated the group covering a number of DHB and Health sector developments. Key items included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing workforce challenges and the need to support local initiatives and do more to ensure health services remained available to rural communities. Health Waikato (the DHB’s Provider Arm) routinely advertised locally, nationally and internationally for staff and on average carried 80 – 100 vacancies across all workforce groups. A new website had been developed with a focus on contribution to the attraction of people wanting to come and work in the Waikato region. • The new car park and Transit Lounge at Waikato Hospital was officially opened in July by the Prime Minister and King Tuheitia. An impressive crowd of Members of Parliament, Ministry Officials and Tainui supporters were on hand to witness the occasion where the new building was blessed in memory of Te Ariki Dame Te Atairangikaahu. • Transport issues are the focus of a new project designed to develop a tool to better identify inequalities across the region. There is a willingness within the DHB to be innovative in finding new solutions to these lingering problems. Members were invited to feed local suggestions into the planning process for consideration. Feedback and consultation on the outcomes of this project is likely to occur at the next forum meetings. • The DHB had commenced work into finding new ways to sustain rural health services. The concept of clustering services into a ‘health village’ around an existing rural hospital is being considered as one way of improving access and delivery of these vital local services. Taumarunui has been identified as the pilot site. Extensive consultation and community engagement has commenced to achieve a bottom up approach to this project outcome. • Workforce challenges were highlighted in a presentation showing demand for health care set to outstrip supply in a very short time-frame. While this is worrying, it does create opportunities to be innovative around new approaches to these issues. The DHB has commenced some work looking at establishing new community nursing services and further project work and consultation will occur further down the track. • Health Waikato (the DHB’s Provider of health Services) had recorded a record year with 10.3 million procedures. This includes

	<p>over 600,000 patient meals, over 20,000 surgical procedures, over 154 outpatient attendances and greater than 7million blood tests. Health Waikato is also undertaking significant redevelopment projects including campus upgrade, IT and system improvements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health services across the region are set to be improved with the allocation of new funding for Primary Mental Health Services. The DHB reported that between 20 – 28% of people in NZ has a diagnosable mental illness at any one time. Until 1 July this year DHB's only received funding for 3% of this population. This meant that a number of people fail to have their needs met adequately. This new primary funding will be a welcome addition to health resources locally. PHO's will have the responsibility of working with their communities to develop and implement these new services. • Waikato DHB had recently announced a Prioritisation Funding Round for the 2009/2010 financial year. This funding round occurs when the DHB has surplus funds available. Contracted providers, Community organisations and Community Health Forums were invited to identify priority initiatives in their communities for consideration within this process. This is a stringently reviewed process so evidence is important. Members were also advised that the process is fiercely contestable.
<p>ITEM 4</p>	<p>LOCAL ISSUES</p> <p>Letter received from Gwenda Brodie, regarding Ear Nose Service. Jane explained that it was going to become a static clinic and will be held once a fortnight. The information would be going to pre schools and GPs and it would also be in the South Waikato News.</p> <p>Shortage of Plunket Nurses and the lack of follow up care after mothers return home. Some mothers are missing out on follow-up homecare visits. Jane reported that one new Plunket nurse has been appointed. Action: Jane requested that she be given accurate information if mothers are missing out on their entitlement of visits.</p> <p>Concern was raised by Kay Walls (Stroke) that some Diabetic patients admitted to Hospital are becoming anxious about receiving their medication at different times from their home intake times. Also that snacks are no longer available with their meals, is this not routine anymore. Action: Jane and Grant will look into these concerns at their respective DHBs.</p> <p>Margaret Bell to discuss matter of Branch Hub in Mangakino at next meeting as she was unavailable to attend today's meeting.</p> <p>Transport was raised; Grant commented that a Planning and Funding representative will be attending the next CHF meeting to discuss this with CHF members.</p> <p>At end of the meeting, Jane took CHF members to visit E.D. to look at the alterations that have been done.</p>
	<p>NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>Thursday 4 December 12.00pm – 2.00pm Library Meeting Room Tokoroa Hospital, Tokoroa</p>