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Memorandum: National Bowel Screening Programme Update – meeting 30 January 2018

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To: Hon Dr David Clark, Minister of Health

Purpose

This briefing provides you with information for a meeting with Jill Lane, Acting Director General and Dr Jane O'Hallahan Clinical Director, National Screening Unit, Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on Tuesday 30 January 2018, from 8.45am to 9.00am. The meeting will provide an update on the implementation of the National Bowel Screening Programme (NBSP).

Background

1. Since 4 December 2017, the Ministry has provided you with the following briefings about the NBSP:

Reference	Title	Summary statement
20171753	Extension of capital contingency	An update for Cabinet on the NBSP implementation and extend the capital contingency to 31 December 2018
20171805	Copy of Accenture and Ernst Young (EY) IT Reports	Accenture report considering way forward for bowel screening IT. EY options analysis and market scan of commercial products for bowel screening IT
20171795	National Bowel Screening Programme - Timeline	Timeline of progressing bowel cancer screening to implementation. Public statements on bowel screening implementation.
2017	National Bowel Screening Programme and the choice between the Faecal Immunochemical Test and Flexi Sigmoidoscopy	An overview of the two most common bowel screening tests and explanation of Ministry's decisions

2. On 20 December 2017 the Cabinet Business Committee approved the Cabinet paper to extend the bowel screening capital contingency to 30 December 2018 and the end date for the implementation of bowel screening to 30 June 2021.
3. The bowel screening pilot operated by Waitemata DHB successfully transitioned to the NBSP on 1 January 2018.
4. Auckland DHB's laboratory LabPlus has been confirmed as the single national laboratory for the testing of the National Bowel Screening Programme faecal immunochemical test. They transitioned from service provision under contract with Waitemata DHB to a contract with the Ministry for the national programme.

Contacts:	Jill Lane, Director, Service Commissioning	s 9(2)(a)
	Astrid Koornneef, Group Manager, National Screening Unit	

Communications and Media

5. On 21 December 2017 the Director, Service Commissioning wrote to the Chief Executives of all 20 DHBs to advise them of the revised implementation timeframe and completion date for the NBSP.
6. On 16 January 2018 the Ministry released a news article on its website about the extension to the timeframe of the nationwide bowel screening roll-out.
7. Interest in the NBSP remains high with a number of media requests received in January, including from Cate Broughton a reporter with The Press. The Ministry is following normal practice with these media enquiries.
8. The Ministry has received two Official Information Act Requests from Stacy Kirk, a reporter with Fairfax Media. Officials will be able to discuss these with you at the meeting.
H201704951 with a response due 5 February 2018
'Could I please request all communications, reports and briefings seen by the Minister in relation to the rollout of a bowel screening programme, since his swearing in?'

H201800180 with a response due 13 February 2018
'Information regarding the bowel cancer screening programme at Waitemata DHB:
Specifically, all communications, briefings and memos between the Ministry of Health and the Minister's Office regarding any technical or systems issues with the programme, that may have caused detrimental outcomes to patients.

I would like to ensure any documentation includes the minister's response to such briefings, and/or any annotations.'

Future activity

Budget 2018

9. As part of the Ministry's preparation for Budget 2018, the NBSP has bid for the next phase of implementation (2018/19). In the 2018/19 financial year, five more district health boards (DHBs) will roll out bowel screening to eligible participants, and the first stage in the development of the information technology will take place.
10. The 2018 budget bid builds on the \$77.8 million allocated in Budget 2016 (\$39.3 million for programme implementation over four years) and Budget 2017 (\$38.5 million for operational costs of bowel screening over four years in the first five DHBs plus a portion of the Regional Centres and National Coordination Centre). This excludes the s 9(2)(f) (iv) held in contingency for the National Screening IT solution.

Southern DHB Commencing Bowel Screening

11. Southern DHB is progressing well to commence bowel screening in April 2017.
12. The Ministry is planning to assess their readiness to go live in late February.

Information Technology (IT) Procurement

13. The procurement of the National Screening IT Solution is ongoing, it remains highly confidential until the preferred provider is identified and contracts signed. Due diligence and negotiations are being undertaken with the two short-listed providers.
14. The due diligence and negotiations are on track for completion in March 2018.

END.