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# Progress towards a National Bowel Screening Programme for New Zealand

RECEIVED  
27 NOV 2015  
Office of the  
BY: Hon. Dr. Jonathan Coleman

To: Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman, Minister of Health

## Purpose

1. This report provides you with a Cabinet paper on consultation on a national bowel screening programme, for you to lodge for Cabinet Social Policy Committee as soon as possible for its consideration on 2 December 2015.

## Cabinet Paper Summary

2. In July 2015 Cabinet agreed that the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) should consult with the health sector on a potential national bowel screening programme [SOC Min (15) 14/7]. Cabinet requested a report back in December 2015 on the outcomes of this sector consultation.
3. The attached Cabinet paper outlines:
  - the need for a national bowel screening programme in New Zealand
  - feedback from the sector consultation on a potential national bowel screening programme
  - the benefits of bowel screening
  - the consequences of delays to rolling out a national bowel screening programme
  - the development of a business case and budget bid for Budget 2016.
4. The Ministry is completing a budget bid and business case which will be submitted to you in February 2016. The business case will include detailed strategic and economic analysis, and confirmed costings. The Treasury are being consulted in the development of the business case.

## Recommendations

The Ministry recommends that you:

- a) Note that the Cabinet paper asks Cabinet to note the outcomes of recent health sector consultation on a national bowel screening programme, the need for maintaining momentum, and that the Ministry of Health is preparing a business case which will be submitted to Ministers in February 2016 as part of final Budget 2016 considerations.
- b) Lodge the attached Cabinet Paper with the Cabinet Office as soon as possible.

Yes / No

Cathy O'Malley  
Deputy Director General  
Sector Capability and Implementation

Minister's signature:

Date: 20.11.15

Contacts:	Deborah Woodley, Group Manager, Personal Health Service Improvement, Sector Capability and Implementation	59(2)(a)
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