

25 June 2007

Dear Sir/Madam

**Public Consultation -
Reconfiguration of oral health services for children and adolescents
in the Capital & Coast and Hutt Valley DHBs' districts**

Capital & Coast and Hutt Valley District Health Boards fund and provide oral health services to children and adolescents aged 2½ to 18 years in the greater Wellington region, which includes Kapiti Coast (including Waikanae), Porirua City, Wellington City, Hutt City and Upper Hutt City.

The two DHBs are developing a proposal to reconfigure these services in line with the Ministry of Health's strategic vision for oral health (*Good Oral Health for All, for Life - August 2006*) for people aged 0-18 years. All DHBs throughout the country are required to present the Ministry with business cases, which outline how they intend to implement this vision in their areas.

The Capital & Coast and Hutt Valley District Health Boards have joined together to undertake this process in the greater Wellington area and will, following this public consultation, present a business case to the Ministry of Health by 30 November 2007.

What the DHBs are considering is a significant change from the current system. We are particularly keen to understand better the likely impact upon family/whanau, schools and the wider community.

We need to understand all the issues so we can finalise a plan within the guidelines of the national vision, so we are asking your opinion on the issue. To assist we have compiled a summary document together with questions and answers, to what we feel may be some of the key issues. The summary document is included with this letter. Further copies of the document and a more detailed consultation document can be downloaded from either www.ccdhb.org.nz or www.huttvalleydhb.org.nz, or posted to you on request.

If your group or organisation would like to meet with a DHB representative to discuss the proposed changes further we are happy to come and talk to you at your next meeting.

Alternatively, you can let us know what you think by:

- Filling in the submission form that accompanies this letter;
Or
- Writing your own response to the issue;
Or
- Attending and giving feedback at the community meetings (see attached document)

Send the form or your response to Marie Rodgers at either of the following addresses-

Post at:
Hutt Valley DHB
Private Bag 31907
Lower Hutt

Email at:
oralhealth@huttvalleydhb.org.nz

Submissions must be received by 5pm, Friday 17th August 2007.

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