



update

for managers

ISSUE 7 - JANUARY 2009

Ma mahi tāhi tātou working together for children and young people with high and complex needs

Kia ora tātou

I hope you had a nice holiday break. We have a lot planned for this year, and so this update will highlight some key activities on the work programme for this calendar year.

The biggest frustration I hear from you is the length of time it takes to develop applications and plans. We've been working on this, and you should start to see the benefits this year.

We think that, once an Interagency Management Group agrees to apply for HCN funding, an Application could be completed in approximately **four weeks**; and the time from the Application being approved to the plan being implemented (i.e. funding commencing) should be **within 13 weeks**.

To further assist with this, we have asked the HCN Advisors to provide more help to teams once the Interagency Management Group has agreed to apply for HCN funding. Other developments include:

Changes to Application and Plan forms – with exemplars, which will be on our [website](#) in March.

Team planning resources ([available now](#)) – to help teams create realistic, focused plans.

Changing the Plan Approval Panel membership - to include practice leaders from CYF, CAMHS, Special Education and Disability. Training for new Panel members will occur in February.

Regional Practitioners Forums - we would like to support Interagency Management Groups in running these to provide up-to-date information to local practitioners. Please select dates and think about the kind of forum that would best suit your needs.

Regional training for Services Coordinators –will focus on the team planning resources, client-focused goal setting, measuring client progress, and the updated plan forms.

New resources for managers – we are working on finalising the Lead Agency Manager Folder and the Interagency Management Group Folder (both currently in draft version on our [website](#)). We hope to have these completed by April.

Reduced reporting requirements – we no longer require:

- a fourth review if a subsequent plan is being developed; this allows the team to focus on the new plan
- a quarterly review for a Transition Plan.

We still need to receive:

- a Financial Review every quarter
- a Final Review for all plans that are ceasing.

Other news:

National Forum for Interagency Management Group Members – will take place in September 2009, focusing on 'what works' for interagency collaboration and sharing solutions for common issues.

New HCN Advisor for the Auckland Region – we have recruited Siobhan Doran-Reid as the HCN Advisor for the Auckland region. She will be starting with us in March 2009.

Reviewing client goals achieved in 2008 – we will share the results of this research with you soon.

Financial position in F09 –in F08, the fund was under a lot of pressure and we over-spent. This financial year, we are not in the same financial position and funding is available.

In an annual budget, where 54% of the committed funding is not spent, the Financial Review helps me manage the overall fund. Thank you for ensuring that these get completed in a timely manner.

I've asked the HCN Advisors to discuss this update with you. If you have any questions or comments, please ask your Advisor, Clare Shepherd or myself.

I look forward to working with you this year.

Cynthia Tarrant -HCN Unit Manager