



Minutes

~~In Confidence~~

Meeting: Whaikaha Executive Leadership Team Weekly Meeting (Management)

Date: Monday, 4 March 2024, 11.00am to 1.00pm (11.00am to 11.15am ELT only time)

Location: Via Teams

Attendees: Paula Tesoriero, Chief Executive (Chair), Ben O’Meara DCE Policy Strategy & Partnerships, Hayley Evans DCE Corporate, Ginny Baddeley DCE People & Culture, Amanda Bleckmann DCE Commissioning Design and Delivery, Ronelle Baker Kaihautū Chief Advisor Māori
Additional guests advised below for specific meeting topics

In attendance Brian Coffey, Chief Advisor to the Chief Executive
Lesley Holder (Secretariat)

Apologies:

Implementation Plan for changes to Flexible Funding

Amanda spoke to the paper circulated via email.

Clarification was sought on the use of the word ‘temporary’ to ensure all ELT had a common understanding. It was agreed that temporary was for a period of up to six months and that the communications team would provide advice about the best way to communicate this timeframe to ensure the message is clear that further changes will be made and that this is not a “pause” with a return to “normal”.

s9(2)(h)

Discussion took place on proposed **timeframes**. It was noted that 18-24/3 was neurodiverse week and World Down’s Syndrome Day will be celebrated on Tuesday, 21 March 2024.

Agreed the changes to EMS and Flexible Funding will be coordinated and communicated jointly.

[Action: EMS prioritisation framework documentation to be sent to Ronelle Baker].

Discussion took place on Appendix One – Proposed scope for flexible funding services. The removal of ‘ready-made food’ was not

supported. Ready-made food for the disabled person may be an essential item and a practical use of funds in that they would be able to reheat food and be able to live independently. Agreed to update exclusions so that HCSS and CiCL includes ready-made food where it offsets the cost of funded support.

Discussion took place on ensuring that it was the 'disabled person' who was receiving the care and not the whanau of the disabled person.

Ronelle agreed to send some words to change the words '*improving the functional adaptation of the disabled person*', in the following statement:

- Stopping use of funding for self-care services such as massages, pedicures and other appearance or therapeutic care that is not for the purpose of *improving the functional adaptation of the disabled person*.

Suggested wording was:

- Stopping use of funding for self-care services such as massages, pedicures and other appearance or therapeutic care that **is not for** the *direct benefit and wellbeing of the disabled person*.

Communications

It was agreed that a draft Communications Plan would be support this work and would be developed by Head of Communications and Engagement.

To the recommendations, ELT:

- (a) **Approved** the implementation plan for changes to flexible funding.

It was agreed that the timeframe for the implementation plan would be 18 March.