

# Summary of Southern DHB Disability Strategy 2020

- For the purpose of the Strategy, disability includes people with physical, intellectual, cognitive, mental or sensory impairments, people with long-term (chronic) or psychosocial conditions, or any other impairment are included.
- In the 2013 New Zealand Disability Survey, 24 per cent of the New Zealand population identified as disabled; in the Southern district 26 per cent identify as disabled. Māori (32 per cent) and Pacific (26 per cent) people had higher than average disability rates, after adjusting for differences in ethnic population age profiles.
- The Southern DHB Strategy aligns with important international and national documents:
  - *United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)*  
Under this international convention, New Zealand is expected to “promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity”.
  - *Health Services and Outcomes Kaupapa Inquiry (Wai2575)*  
The Waitangi Tribunal Health Services and Outcomes Inquiry (Wai 2575) is an ongoing inquiry into the ways the Crown have responded to health inequities experienced by Māori. Based on the deliberations of Wai 2575, the Tribunal has recommended the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000, its associated policies and strategies be amended. The amendment is to give effect to the Treaty principles and ensure that those principles are part of what guides the health care sector to achieve equitable health outcomes for Māori.
  - *Whakamaua: Māori Health Action Plan 2020-2025*  
Whakamaua provides a clear direction and tangible actions that contribute to achieving the vision of pae ora (healthy futures) for Māori. Whakamaua emphasises the significance of Te Tiriti o Waitangi as a foundational document for public policy and has moved to the five new principles of: Tino rangatiratanga; Equity; Action Protection; Options and Partnership.
  - Other New Zealand strategies and policies to be recognised include the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act (2000), the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2001 (updated 2016) and Whānau Ora.
- Southern DHB currently has a number of initiatives that will go some way to address concerns raised through community consultation, these include: the Southern Strategic Health Plan, the Southern Primary and Community Care Strategy, the Southern DHB Quality Framework and the Southern Workforce Strategy.
- The vision of the Southern DHB Disability Strategy is that: Within the Southern district all disabled people, tāngata whaikaha, and Deaf people will have an equal opportunity to achieve their best possible health outcomes, enabling their participation in their community.
- Three goals were identified from the consultation process as important for the Southern DHB to include in their programme of work:
  - **Bold and Purposeful:** The Southern district will be seen as a leader in the provision of health and disability services for disabled people, tāngata whaikaha, and Deaf people. Actions relating to this goal can be found on page 13.
  - **Inclusive of Individuals, Whānau or Family and Community:** Disabled people, tāngata whaikaha, and Deaf people and their family or whānau will have access to the support they require to live well within their community. Actions relating to this goal can be found on page 15.
  - **Equitable, Responsive and Accessible:** Through prompt and effective processes disabled people, tāngata whaikaha, and Deaf people will have access to health and disability information and services that promote their health and wellbeing. Actions relating to this goal can be found on page 17.
- A Disability Steering Group will be established with representation from different departments from across the DHB, from areas such as IT, Building and Property, Clinical Services, Human Resources, Community representatives with lived experiences including Māori and Pacifica. This group will be responsible for ensuring actions are prioritised across different parts of the organisation.