**Community Health Council**

**Highlights from meeting 6th July 2023**

**Chair Lyneta Russell**

1**. Home and Community Support Services presentation.**

Jane Kelley, Chief Executive of the New Zealand Health Group, the country’s largest provider of home and community support services, spoke with the Council about the services that the Home Health Group provided, and how the Council could engage better with the sector. Although their services are funded by a number of different sources Te Whatu Ora and Te Whaikaha are significant funders. Jane invited the Council to reach out at any time.

2. **Community Health Council Priorities for the next 12 months**

The Community Health Council spent time considering 4 priorities for the next 12 months. These will be included in the annual workplan which is yet to be developed.

3. **Disability Strategy**

The Council received a brief update on current disability work from the Chair of the Disability Working Group.

4. **Key Community Health Council Member Issues**

Each meeting CHC members outline the key issues in their communities. Of note this month were concerns about Oamaru patients being sent to Timaru when no emergency department doctor was available, communities in Southland not being informed about flu vaccinations, concern about a lone GP in a rural setting leaving and no replacement, and reports of rural patients being sent to Dunedin for treatments that could have been managed locally,

5. **Te Whatu Ora and Well South Updates**

Hywel Lloyd and Andrew Swanson Dobbs provided updates to the Council and responded to questions including providing further information about some of the concerns raised by Council members.



8th July 2023