



# Community Health Council

## Key Messages of the Meeting held Thursday 14 September 2017

1. The Council discussed the Southern Primary and Community Care Strategy and Action Plan which is being led by Ernest Young (EY) and opened for consultation in August 2017. Community Health Council (CHC) members want mechanisms to notify our communities, whānau and patients about this strategy, what it signifies, and its importance – as there is concern being raised in the community about the lack of understanding.

The CHC discussed that input from communities needs to be robust and thorough. Communication from EY to all stakeholders needs to go out in a timely and clear manner. Issuing public meetings with a short notice period is not satisfactory for many people who cannot rearrange things at short notice to allow attending meetings, and there is uncertainty about what the future plans are for consultation.

The Council strongly encourages people to submit any feedback or suggestions of what could be done to improve the delivery of services in our district through to the email address: [planningfunding@southerndhb.govt.nz](mailto:planningfunding@southerndhb.govt.nz)

2. The Council spent the majority of their September meeting working on the development the CHC Community, Whānau and Patient (CWP) Engagement Framework. The purpose of this framework is to demonstrate the CHC's commitment to meaningful and effective engagement with CWP to improve services; clarify the expectations regarding CWP engagement across the Southern district, provide guidance and support to staff working within the Southern health system in planning and implementing engagement initiatives. The CHC will outline an approach and core engagement strategies for Southern health system to achieve better health outcomes.

The five underpinning principles of this framework include:

- Genuine participation
- Inclusive and accessible for all
- Mutual respect
- Empowerment
- Meaningful

The CHC will be holding a number of forums to consult on the draft framework in mid-November. The Council want to engage with community and whānau members around the role of the CHC and what they have been involved with since forming in February 2017.

### Next meeting: Thursday 9 November 2017

If you are interested in finding out more about the Community Health Council please visit the Southern DHB website <http://www.southerndhb.govt.nz/pages/community-health-council/> or email [chc@southerndhb.govt.nz](mailto:chc@southerndhb.govt.nz)