



## NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our April newsletter, this exciting new look email is full of the latest developments that will keep you up-to-date with our industry.

PHARMAC UPDATE



As of 1 April 2021, Pharmac has scheduled 130,000+ medical devices. In their bid to ensure hospitals can buy medical devices at “fairer prices”, they are steadily increasing their number of listing agreements with suppliers. An update of which products and which suppliers are listed can be found on their website.

Since the early stages of COVID-19, PHARMAC has been actively working with their contracted suppliers and wider industry groups to identify supply risks and impacts to the general supply chain. PHARMAC has provided direct support to several of their contracted suppliers; this support has included leveraging their networks to ease logistics issues through to temporary financial support for increased freight costs in material cases.

To claim the freight compensation, evidence is needed of increased costs. This can be a time-consuming exercise, when there is a mix of products in a shipment, some of which will not be related to Pharmac contracts. This may not always provide a net benefit to the supplier.

Those that are experiencing any issues with the supply of PHARMAC contracted medical devices, should contact them at [contractmanagement@pharmac.govt.nz](mailto:contractmanagement@pharmac.govt.nz).

ATSNZ DISABILITY EXPO 2021



Our September ATSNZ Disability Expo 2020 that was postponed until March 2021, once again needed to be postponed due to lockdown restrictions and uncertainties. This decision was positively received around the sector and we are looking forward to putting our best foot forward on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> July, welcoming a great crowd to participate in this, for ATSNZ, significant event.

Tania Bowkett (CI South) who already had put a tremendous effort into securing a great line up of conference speakers, is again putting the final touches to the Conference Programme which highlights the caliber within our industry.

With the Australian/New Zealand travel bubble looking to be a reality mid-April, we hope to welcome our expo organizers from Interpoint on our soil. Some of our previous exhibitors from Australia may now be tempted to join us.

The Minister for Disability, the honorable Carmel Sepuloni, has graciously agreed to open our event at 10.00 AM on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July. We look forward to welcoming her to our event and listening to her speech.

We will be hosting an informal networking event at the close of the first day. Michelle Riwai (GM Enable) and her team, as well as Graham Walling (CEO Accessable) and his team have accepted invitations to join us for this informal event. All exhibitors and ATSNZ members are invited along.

Please remember that the success of this event is very much up to those members who are exhibiting. We need you to do all that you can to create awareness of the event and the speaker line up to your customers throughout New Zealand. We all play a part in ensuring we get the right people attending to help ensure it becomes the country's Premier Assistive Technology event.

## HEALTH & DISABILITY SYSTEM REVIEW



DR ANDREW LITTLE

### Recent comments

"The case for change in the health system – building a stronger Health and Disability System that delivers for all New Zealanders" is the title of the speech that the Minister of Health Andrew Little delivered to parliament on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March.

It went back to the outcomes of the review and the rationale for change and announced that in April we will be introduced to the new shape and structure for the future health and disability system. This will be the blueprint for how the system will work in the future.

He specifically mentioned the disabled community and this portion of the speech follows:

***“Let me turn to our disabled community. They also face inequitable outcomes. Only 50% of disabled people rate their health as good, compared to 89 percent of the rest of the population.***

***We have heard the disabled community’s views on the Review recommendations about how disability support services are governed in the future; and we know that work is still needed to improve access to health services and outcomes for disabled people. The Minister for Disability Issues Carmel Sepuloni and I have requested separate advice looking at the governance of disability support services and where it sits in wider government structures. We need to bear in mind that members of this community are not only high users of health services, but users of other services that enable them to live safely in the community.***

***We will continue to actively engage with the disability community on any future governance models.”***

We will focus our attention on the how this will impact on our specific niche within the sector and seek opportunities to input into this process of system reshaping and restructuring.

## NGO COUNCIL REPORTS

The NGO Council have commissioned three reports in response to the Health & Disability System Review.

The Minister of Health released the Final Report of the Review on 16 June 2020. Central to the report’s recommendations is an acknowledgement that the current health service is of high quality by world standards but is overly complex to navigate. As a result, we have inequitable outcomes. Specifically, the needs of Māori, Pacific, disabled people, and rural communities, along with some other population groups, must be addressed as these groups currently experience significant health disparities.

The recommendations are wide-ranging and include legislative change as well as structural and culture change, some of which require government policy decisions and others which would be within the control of the system itself.

The Review acknowledged that NGOs are an integral part of the health and disability system, and the wellbeing of many New Zealanders. NGO services often provide a voice for consumers and whānau, including those who have been underserved by other parts of the system.

The Review recognises that improving the health and wellbeing of the population will not come from the efforts of any single organisation nor should it be driven primarily from within traditional health services. The Review notes that the health and disability system and its institutions need to partner across

government and with other sectors to address inequity and improve outcomes, particularly for those for whom the current system is not working – including disabled peoples.

The NGO Council Reports can be downloaded here:

<https://federation-enable.cwp.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/NGOCouncil-Disability-report-FINAL.pdf>

<https://federation-enable.cwp.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/NGOCouncil-MaoriNGO-report-V7.pdf>

<https://federation-enable.cwp.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Horizon-Thinking-NGO-Council-Niu-Mindworks.pdf>

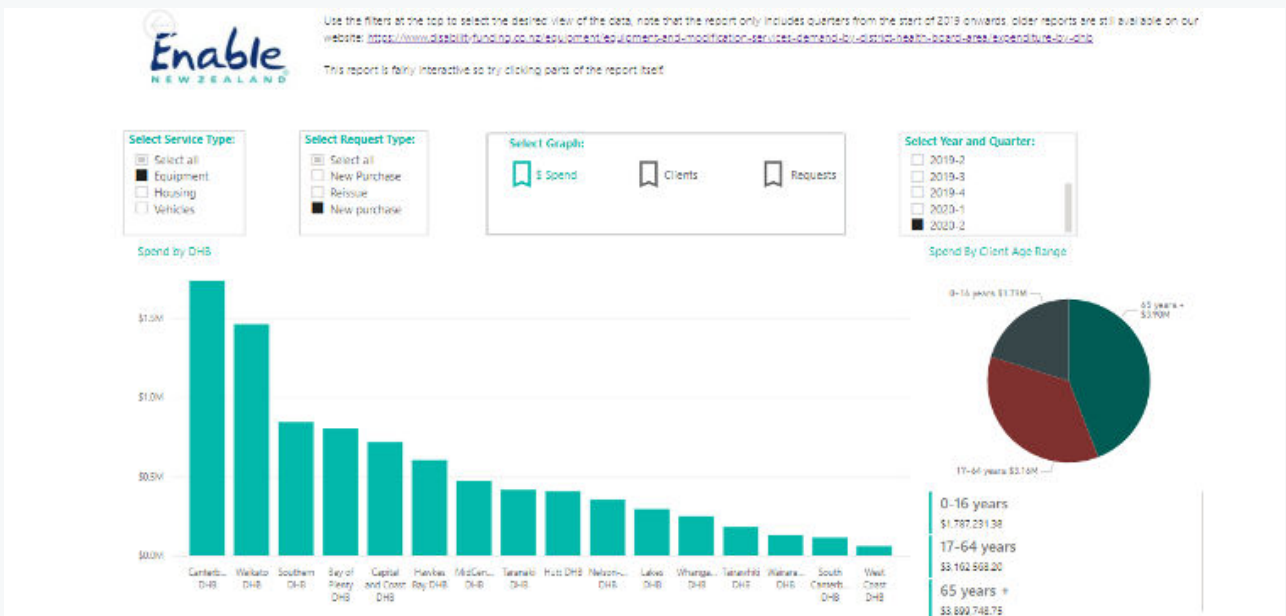


On the Enable website you can find the Equipment and Modifications Service spend by each District Health Board (and age band) as managed by Enable New Zealand, for all years per quarter from 2008 up to the current period.

There is a link that will take you to a new, interactive report that will allow you to choose quarters from January 2019 onward's. The old reports are still accessible on their site. The new way of reporting is:

- more interactive and has filters across the top;
- can now report on reissues as well as new purchases:
  - Note that reissues don't have a cost component so the Spend filter will not show any data for reissues.

The link button below takes you to the spend data for 2020 quarter 2, which is the most recent data made publicly available. Below is the screen shot for newly purchased equipment in 2020-2.



We requested the data from the Ministry of Health for all equipment spend

towards the end of last year. The report based on that data is located on our website in the members only section. <http://atsnz.org.nz/reports/>. It covers spend up to end of June 2020. We will update that report for the more recent data after we put in another request for data

## MEET OUR MEMBERS



### ANDREW SHORT – PERMOBIL

Andrew Short has been appointed as the new Country Manager for Permobil New Zealand. He joins the organisation from outside the industry but holds national and international experience from sectors with many synergies. Andrew was attracted to the role with a passion for serving others and wanting something that could make an impact on the lives of his fellow countrymen and women. He recently described to his NZ team that he feels this role is his 'true calling' and feels driven to help give people an independent quality life.

Innovating for Individuals is more than a catch phrase for him. He also has a great sense of humour as witnessed here wearing the racing strip that is supporting the national cycle tour to raise funds for the New Zealand Spinal Trust commencing April 10 – April 18, 2021. He declares he could not ride the 550Kms but is happy to advertise and drive the supporter van!

Andrew was a former director of his own educational leadership and change management company working across NZ, Australia, and Asia in a variety of contractual arrangements from the Waste Management industry to supporting investors build International Schools in other countries. He was formerly the International Director for Furnware Industries with direct regional responsibilities for the Middle East and Asia markets and developing the rest of world growth. This role involved manufacturing tailored learning environments to accelerate student and young adult development. His role grew the company's export capability with the Gulf Cooperating Countries and Australasia target markets.

Prior to that Andrew was a former General Manager – International Business Development at Cognition Education, responsible for the delivery of new business opportunities in organisational improvement, policy development and system transformation, school leadership and management, both in the public and private education sector.

Previously, Andrew lived overseas for 15 years residing in Qatar, United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. Whilst there he was Regional Director Middle East, North Africa & India for GEMS Education Solutions responsible for business development and operational implementation for public and private sector

work across MENA (28 countries) as well as India. He returned to New Zealand in 2015 with his wife Claire and two children (now teenagers) Madeleine and Harry.

We welcome Andrew to the ATSNZ team and look forward to his participation in the sector. As he states his purpose in life revolves around the four P's, "People, Passion, Purpose and Progress!"

## Countdown for ATSNZ Expo



### 6th & 7th July 2021

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EXPO HERE](#)

#### **ATSNZ**

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