

NASCA General Meeting – Wellington Airport Conference Centre
Thursday 06 March 2014 – 9:00am – 4:00pm

Present: Mark Brown (Chairperson) Bruce Green, Karen Bailey, Susan Bowden, Don Sorrenson, Sonia Hawea, Wendy Kopura, Jane Pembroke, Lynn Jones, Raewyn Cameron, Helene Dore, Anna McGregor, Jan White, Anne Simpson, Marlon Hepi, Rosalie Eilering, Sandie Cherrington, Bettina Hesse, Pauline Holland, Bronwyn Taylor, Susan Murray, Pene Maddock, Diane Brockbank, Craig Hutchinson, Anne Simpson, Jil Coutts, Margaret Sargent, Jo-anne Marsland, Karen Mora, Penny Forrester, Susan Murray, Joanne Martin, Deb Nind, Jocelyn Williamson, Lynne Grueber, Noel Matthews, Judy Preston (EA)

Apologies: Tony Blackett, Kim Holt; Mimi Backhouse, Carolyn Gilmour, Judith Geary, Andrea Darling, Ray Williamson, Scott Ambridge

Noel Matthews opened the meeting with a Karakia. Mark welcomed everyone, and introductions were given by all.

NASCA Executive Update

Mark reviewed the agenda for the day and referred to upcoming General Meetings for 2014:

- 05 June Auckland 04 September Wellington –AGM included 05 December Christchurch

Updates From Workstreams

DSS Service Specs Review (Sonia)

- Representatives: Myree, Jane and Sonia. The purpose, to gather important and relevant ideas for service specifications. First teleconference held yesterday. Doug Funnell will collate information and send back to the group and then further down the track, information will go out to all NASC members for review. Topics for review:
 - How consumers and other stakeholders will have input
 - Direction of new model – confirm relevance of the NASC standards
 - Reaffirm the rightful role and function of NASC in the disability sector
 - Monitoring providers – what does it mean?
 - All NASCs will be asked to add to the brainstorm and all input will be welcomed.

Comment from Helene Dore: Involvement of Older Persons NASCs? - looking at consistency and synergies between DSS and OP Health. Query: Would it be an option to involve the Older Person's funder (DHB's)?

Mark thanked all those who volunteered to be part of the Service Specification Review

Review & Reassessment Project

- Mark has developed a scoping for this DSS Project which will be circulated to all NASCs within the next couple of weeks for information and forwarding to suitable contractors to undertake the Project.

Te Arero and DSS Maori Disability Plan (Sonia Hawea and Marlon Hepi)

- Marlon gave a brief history of the group which first came together in 2006, members consisting of Noel, Sonia, Craig, Marlon.
- Development of a NASC service delivery specifically to Maori
- Key win in 2012 was the development of the MoH Maori Disability Strategy – a national guide and foundation document formulated through data collected via Socrates over 3 years.
- Good timing to review Te Arero with Constitution Review. Focus is to ensure the terms of Reference will align with the NASCA Constitution. Person appointed in the MoH Maori advisor, Inia Eruera – an appropriate contact for Marlon. The need to revitalize Te Arero is likely to come ahead of the Constitution review which is not as urgent.

E Filing Project

- NASCA contracted Business Analyst, Rachel Brunell to develop a consistent file structure for DSS NASCs. Progressing well. Rachel will be present today to provide an update.

Business Continuity Project

- NASCA contracted Carol MacDonald to produce a template and guide on a Business Continuity planning. This resource is available to any NASC who have not already undertaken BCP.

Behaviour Support

- MoH have announced the outcome of their tender for a single national behaviour support provider. 'Explore' a business unit of Healthcare of NZ. There will be a transition period over 1 year.

Eligibility – FFC Paying Family Carers (Mark)

- Noted that the information on the MOH website is not explicit. Confirmed that FFC policy is eligibility is restricted to disabled people under the age of 65. Our role now is to help explain and clarify this to enquirers. A good reference and contact person is Chris Petch (DSS MoH).

Workforce Reference Group – Key points (Sonia Hawea)

- Te Pou have increased their ability to provide funds particularly around Maori / Pacific groups
- Careerforce pathways
- KPMG Pricing Review – ability of providers to be able to pay better ie minimum wage
- Presentation from Yvonne Boyton – Vulnerable Children's Bill to be implemented this year. A good presentation around the legislation identifying important areas re risk. Suggestion that it would be useful to have someone from this work group to talk to us. **A good topic for next meeting.**
- Migrant Workforce Issues – growing population in migrant community. Discussion around how Government can be better prepared supporting

organisations to have better outcomes for this workforce.

- Consultation Careerforce – Kaiawhina Workforce strategy– a 20 year vision and a 5 year action plan – a workforce strategy around the different priorities between this and other workforces.

Secondment (Mark)

- Toni Atkinson (Group Manager DSS MoH) has been seconded to a role with DHB Waikato for the next 2 months, but will still be very much involved in DSS.

ASD Eligibility DSS (Mark)

- ASD will become part of the DSS Eligibility criteria from 02 April 2014 and people will be able to access DSS services. NASCA has strongly advocated to the MOH that comprehensive preparation should have taken place to deal with the potential of many implications arising from this clarification. We have also advised the MoH that we are in support of the direction, but we are unsure that this initiative has been resourced properly and that sufficient preparation has been undertaken.
- MoH are now waiting for the Minister to make an announcement. DSS have high level agreement with Mental Health at MOH level, but this also needs to happen at grass roots level in each region. Training will be offered in April / May by Tanya Breen - proposed 6 Regional training sessions, Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, Palmerston North, Christchurch and Dunedin TBC. Mark acknowledged that this has not been a successful interactive project with the Ministry.

Financial Review (Don Sorrenson)

Don provided a summary of the financial report:

- Currently in an overall good financial position. Most revenue comes from the 6 MoH DSS contracts which all run at a small surplus, plus the administrative contract.
- Profit & Loss / Balance Sheet – net profit of \$80K although some payments still to be made for contracts
- Financial Balance sheet YTD \$140K - \$90K mainly from a prior contract
- Xero software package is being used
- Financial reports will be available on NASCA Website

Tax Liability – Claim Against Previous Auditors (Mark)

- Mark gave an update on the current position advising that a potential sum of \$62,000 was being claimed against the previous auditors for not giving appropriate advice. The Exec had discussed a possible approach of negotiating with a solicitor a set fee based on successful recovery.
- There was agreement with that Exec should proceed on this basis, and that once a proposition is confirmed advice will be circulated to the membership for agreement to proceed before any significant funds are expended.

Constitution Review (Mark)

Mark referred to the paper Craig Hutchinson recently produced on the history of the Constitution - previously shared. The Exec had discussed the Mission and Purpose of NASCA and proposed four statements of purpose to initiate discussion. The meeting undertook a 10 minute round table discussion to gain consensus and feedback on the 4 statements. There was general agreement with the statements with the additions and amendments shown in bold below:

Vision A vision statement is required – a good life in the community for people (somehow encompassing all streams)....

1. Advocate and ~~facilitate~~ **influence the** shaping of national policy and directions re NASC frameworks
2. Present a unified voice – representative body engaging on issues common to the ~~three streams – DSS, HOP, and MH~~ **representatives of NASCA**
3. Promote consistency and best practice
4. Peer support and networking for NASC Managers and practitioners **(some felt this should be the first priority)**
5. **Sharing knowledge**
6. **Developing Managers to develop our teams**
7. **Positively influencing how services are delivered to people**

Other points discussed and noted:

- **Maori & Pacific Island Representation** – is this all inclusive or should there be a separate point
- **“Consistency and Best Practice”** – do we need to define what these mean
- There are a number of other agencies that offer assessment services – offer potential membership to other agencies eg Deaf, Blind etc.

Careerforce Update on the Proposed new Qualification Framework (James Lord – Careerforce)

James provided an update on the proposed new qualification framework which is waiting NZQA sign off before work is undertaken on design of qualifications.

Update & next steps re Eligibility Grey Areas from the December meeting

Sonia and Susan facilitated a discussion on Joint Funding. Comments as follows:

- **Is it happening?** Consensus is yes
- **How is it working?** Working ok but difficulties in setting up – different assessment tools used by different providers. Look at the individuals driving need – packages. Case by case basis – have to reinvent things each time. High level of work required for some. Navigation around FFC and IF.
- Shared packages but not shared funding
- NorthAble– individual cases – no clear overarching guidelines or process on how to go about this. Recurring situation – young children with high

health needs and high disability needs

- Specialist reports on diagnosis and recommendations – has to be at that level to make it happen. Where do CYFs fit in?
- Restructuring – people and contacts change
- **Success stories** - Look at the individuals driving need – packages. Good stories around joint funding in IRP.
- **Challenges** – marrying 2 types of support arrangements together. Different processes in funding arrangements
- Challenges insourcing funding for exceptional situations – NorthAble has had some success. Need to have buy in from all parties otherwise it won't happen.
- Assessment Tool
- LTSCHC – Long term support of chronic health conditions
- DSM5 – diagnostic support
- Assessments for children

Key Themes to Explore

All agreed to take these topics further and invite guest speakers to the next meeting, and interest groups be formed to undertake work on specific areas.

Navigator Model

Noel Matthews took the opportunity to announce that MoH DSS had verbally informed him of the decision to support roll out the Navigator Model to some under 65 NASCs. Those NASCs willing to trial this will have the opportunity to come forward in due course, and DSS will pay for some training. NASCA will await written confirmation from the MoH, and will advise further.

Summary & Close of day

Mark reviewed points of discussion and particularly the discussion on NASCA roles and purpose. Moving forward we can certainly concentrate on the areas and principles where we obviously have a good measure of agreement.

A Survey Monkey evaluation survey will be sent out early next week – this helps the Exec to be responsive to people's needs. Encourage all to feedback on content / venue / and how you found the day?

The meeting closed with Karakia (Noel) at 3:20pm.