

Minutes of the Consumer and Patient Working Group Meeting Thursday 9 April 2026

The meeting was held online from 2.00pm to 4.15pm.

Present:

Malcolm Mulholland (Chair)
Gerard Rushton
Tim Edmonds
Chris Higgins
Francesca Holloway
Trent Lash
Libby Burgess

Reset programme team:

Jannel Fisher (Reset Programme Manager), Sam McCarthy (Reset Programme Project Manager), Becky Littlewood (Reset Programme Coordinator), Ross Henderson (Engagement Lead), Danielle Campbell (Reset Programme Project Manager)

Pharmac staff attendees:

Andrew Oliver (Senior Therapeutic Group Manager), Charlie Taylor (Therapeutic Group Manager)

Apologies:

Deon York
Rachel Smalley
Tracy Tierney

1. Karakia and welcome

The meeting was opened by the Chair.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

- Moved by: Libby
- Seconded by: Francesca

3. Action items

Action items were noted.

4. Interest register

No new declarations or changes were made.

5. Vaccine Introductory Overview

Pharmac provided an introductory overview of the process for funding and implementing vaccines, outlining its role and responsibilities alongside those of partner agencies.

Members sought further clarification on a range of aspects, including the separation of vaccines from medicines in Budget bids, eligibility criteria, implementation and procurement processes, and responses to pandemics or public health events.

Pharmac also provided an update on the timing of the current consultation for the vaccines RFP and confirmed it is due to be released in the coming weeks.

Agreed actions

- *Pharmac will provide members with further clarification on the budget bid process for vaccines.*
- *Members may send follow up questions to the reset inbox, which will be directed to the relevant team for response.*

6. Funding Application Process

Following the January in-person working group meeting, Pharmac has been working to revise and simplify the eight-step funding application process to better explain how the process works for a range of stakeholders, including patients and consumers.

Pharmac presented the revised version to members to show how their feedback has been incorporated. Members engaged in constructive discussion on each of the steps and provided further feedback to enhance the process document.

Pharmac will continue to refine the process, with members having another opportunity to provide input before the documents is finalised.

7. General business

Arrangements for the June in-person meeting were discussed.

Agreed actions:

- *The Reset Team will contact members regarding travel arrangements for the June in-person meeting.*

Close of meeting at 4.10pm.

The next meeting is on Thursday 23 April 2.00pm – 4.00pm to discuss Vision & Strategy accountability measures and application timeframes.