

Thursday, 11 June 2020

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to you as the CEO of your DHB on behalf of Platform Trust seeking clarification around an uplift for NGOs for the 20-21 financial year. Platform is the national peak body for all mental health and addiction NGO providers in New Zealand.

The Platform Board met today. With urgency, we are seeking communication around the planned approach and uplift percentage. The GMs of Funding, alongside Platform and Phillipa Gaines, have identified where there are major funding gaps across the country. They are also aware of the costs our members continue to carry which current funding does not completely cover. We are frustrated that nothing has happened to address this despite this knowledge being known. Therefore, we are writing to you asking for a 5% uplift nationally.

Many NGO's are in the process of budget setting for the next financial year. They are also needing to factor in strategies to address a number of cost pressures and sustainability factors including: expected salary increases, relativity impacts, as well as significant investment in infrastructure to support the response to COVID-19 and working ongoing in a more dynamic virtual world that continues to require accountability and an absolute commitment to addressing and equity outcomes.

The COVID-19 period highlighted again the different ways that every DHB approach issues, contracting relationships with their NGO partners and the variance in pricing models. We remain committed to wanting to address this issue and achieve greater consistency across the country. We see a commitment to a national uplift as significant progress to addressing this issue.

We would appreciate a speedy response to this request please with follow up communication to contracted NGOs.

Thank you for your consideration and urgent attention.

Kind regards



Marion Blake MNZM
CEO
Platform Trust



Naomi Cowan MNZM
Chair
Platform Trust