

COVID-19 UPDATE #2 – 20 MARCH 2020

The [Ministry of Health website](#) is the prime, up to date source of information and health advice about managing Covid-19 and preventing its spread. This is being updated with new resources regularly and reflects the changing nature of the situation we are dealing with.

There is also now a recently launched all of Government Unite against Covid-19 website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>. This is information targeted at the public.

Platform has created a page on our website for **all community organisations**: <https://www.platform.org.nz/covid-19>. This website page will become our central communications channel where we will host weekly briefing updates. This will be information relevant for all NGOs, not just mental health and addiction and you are free to share this with others.

Planning groups

This week Platform has been focussed on understanding the emergency planning landscape and how this will work.

The Ministry of Health is the lead agency for the whole of Government as this is a health emergency. A group called National Health Coordination Centre is within the Ministry and that is the place where things come together.

There is also a DHB CEO leadership group with designated CEOs responsible for different aspects of COVID. Platform is a member of the group that is working on community issues along with other peak bodies. Through this group we have escalated the issue of the urgent need to suspend audits. Please let me know if there are things that you want me to raise at this or other meetings.

Many of you have already connected with your local DHB and there are many meetings already happening. The advice for all NGOs is to connect locally with your DHB whether you are funded by health or not as they are responsible for local emergency plans and will understand what the local issues are. We will follow this up next week and will get contact details.

Organisational resources for clients

Checklist for establishing client support needs

Appendix 1 contains a useful checklist for establishing what practical support and resources clients require. For those providers who use Wild Bamboo's Recordbase

system this can easily be incorporated online in alerts, risks and notes. Please contact Wild Bamboo staff directly if you would like any help with this.

Helpful resources and links

Other resources for clients:

1. [Just a Thought](#) - a free online CBT programme for people wanting support around generalised anxiety or depression.
2. [Top tips](#) from the Mental Health Foundation for looking after individual mental health and wellbeing.

If there is anything you would like me to bring to the meetings next week, please contact me on ceo@platform.org.nz or call me on 021 790 587.

We will stay in touch via our webpage: <https://www.platform.org.nz/covid-19> and email briefings.

Marion Blake

20/03/20

Appendix 1: Checklist for assessing client support needs

Education

1. Give out a fact sheet about COVID 19.
2. Educate about physical distancing, high risk behavior like picking up cigarette butts and sharing cigarette.

Food

1. How many people are in your household?
2. Do you have one weeks supply of food and cleaning supplies?
3. Do you need financial or physical help to get one weeks supply?
4. Do we need to hold food for this household?
5. Anything else?

Medication

1. How much supply do you have?
2. Do you need any support in accessing medication?
3. Do you need nicotine patches?
4. Anything else?

Household and Heating

1. Do you need any items?
2. Are there any items that are not working or need repair?
3. What heating do you have?
4. Anything else?

Financial and Employment

1. Do you have a job?
2. Are there any employment issues you need support with?
3. Are you getting regular payment?
4. Are there any other financial issues you need support with?
5. Anything else?

Connection

1. Do you have a smart phone one that enables you to do video calling?
2. What apps do you use i.e.? What's App, Messenger?
3. Do we know your phone number?
4. What data: wifi package do you have?
5. Can you contact your whānau and friends?
6. Do we have your emergency contact details?
7. Anything else?

What else do you need?