Southern Primary & Community Care Action Plan



Piki Te Ora



Hauora Matua Ki Te Tonga

Mihi

Karanga atu rā ki ngā tangata o te taitonga; Nei rā mātou, e mihi kau ana ki ā koutou tīpuna kua wehe atu ki tua o Paerau. Tēnā koutou katoa!

We call to you, the people of the south; We greet and acknowledge all of our ancestors who have passed beyond the veil. Greetings to you all!



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Introduction

Introduction

Tēnā koutou katoa,

We are pleased to present the Southern Primary and Community Care Action Plan, which describes how we will deliver on the vision for primary and community care in the Southern health system outlined in Southern Primary and Community Care Strategy. The Strategy's vision centres around our consumers, their whānau and communities, and the role the Southern health system needs to play in caring for and empowering them to live well, stay well, get well and die well. It reflects the call from our communities for better integrated services, and from our workforce to strengthen the capacity and capability of primary and community care to contribute to the wider Southern health system.

In developing this Action Plan to execute the Strategy, we have considered:

- ▶ How the system needs to be organised
- ▶ How to work with stakeholders to co-design viable care models
- ▶ How to build a critical mass of inter-linked actions to deliver improvements at pace and scale
- Actions that need to be:
 - District-wide
 - ▶ Tailored to local community needs
 - Targeted to specific population groups
- Learnings from previous planning and action in Southern
- ► The experiences of other health systems in improving primary and community care.

The Strategy and Action Plan have been developed jointly by Southern District Health Board and WellSouth Primary Health Network, with support from the University of Otago, reflecting our commitment to working together to improve the contribution of primary and community care to the wider Southern health system. They recognise our history, and the challenges we face in responding to the changing needs of our communities, the increasing pressures on our health workforce, and our responsibility to provide equitable access to services across our large and diverse district.

Our ability to implement the actions underpinning this Action Plan will depend on whether we are bold enough and prepared to make tough prioritisation decisions. Given our available funding, we will need to create a virtuous cycle of saving to invest and through our investments, creating new savings to further invest. We will also need to carefully invest any additional funding we receive. Our intention is preferentially invest any additional funding we receive in the actions set out in this Action Plan. In undertaking this approach, we are committed working with our communities and other stakeholders to deliver on this Action Plan. Mauri ora!



Chris Fleming Chief Executive Southern DHB



Ian Macara Chief Executive WellSouth PHN



Kathy Grant Commissioner Southern DHB



Dr. Douglas Hill Chair

The Southern Primary & Community Care Strategy and Action Plan

	New Zealand H All New Zealanders live		Health	He Korowa	ai Oranga r Māori, 'Pae Ora'			
WHY?	A sustainable South Island heal	South Island Region th & disability system, focused on ke effective, high quality services, as c	eping people well and pro		able and timely access to safe,			
		Southern \ Better health, bette	Vay Vision r lives, Whānau Ora					
	Vision for Southern primary & community care Excellent primary and community care that empowers people in our diverse communities to live well, stay well, get well and die well, the integrated ways of working, rapid learning and effective use of technology							
WHAT?	Goal 1. Consumers, whānau and communities are empowered to drive and own their care	Goal 2. Primary and community care works in partnership to provide holistic, team-based care	Goal 3. Secondary and tertiar integrated into prima community care m	ary and	Goal 4. The health system is technology-enabled			
	Care models							
	Empower consumers, whānau communities to self-care			Create	e locality networks to better coordinate care			
	Supporting infrastructure							
		Strengthened govern	ance and leadership					
HOW?		Whole-system health ar	nd business intelligence					
		Building workforce c	apability and culture					
	h	ntegrated technology solutions and c	ost-effective use of care t	echnologies				
		Results-focused fund	ling and contracting					
	Supporting adoption							
	Demonstration	Communications	and engagement		Provider support			

Table of key definitions

Term	Definition
Primary care	Primary care relates to the professional health care provided in the community, usually from a general practitioner (GP), practice nurse, pharmacist or other health professional working within a general practice
Community care	Wide-ranging care provided in a community setting, from supporting consumers to manage long-term conditions, to treating those who are seriously ill with complex conditions, much of which takes place in people's homes
Secondary care	Care provided by a specialist or facility on referral from primary care (usually by a GP), requiring more specialised knowledge, skills, or equipment than can be provided in primary care. This can be provided either by visiting specialists, or in Dunedin, Invercargill, or some rural hospitals in the Southern district
Tertiary care	Specialised care (investigation and treatment) usually provided on referral from clinicians in primary or secondary care by visiting specialists, or in Dunedin Hospital (with some services provided outside the district e.g., highly specialised paediatric care at Starship Hospital in Auckland)
Multi-disciplinary	A team comprised of people from across disciplines within the health sector, supporting the delivery of holistic health care. This could include, for example, GPs, PNs, DNs, pharmacists, health care assistants, allied health and other relevant representatives
Inter-disciplinary	A team comprised of people from the health and social sector, supporting the delivery of holistic health and social care. This could include, for example, multi-disciplinary teams, plus representatives from MSD, Corrections, Housing, Ministry for Vulnerable Children, Oranga Tamariki and other agencies
Care coordination	Supporting the coordinated delivery of consumer / whānau care, either within or across providers. A care coordination service will support this function across primary, community, secondary and tertiary care in the Southern district
Stepped care	A care model approach that segments populations into increasing levels of health (and social) need, with defined care responses matched to population segments. The higher the level of need, the more intense the care response.
Health Care Home (HCH)	A team-based model of care by primary care with strong strategic and operational relationships with community, hospital and specialist services, with the intent to provide the right level of proactive, comprehensive and continuous health care to patients
Locality network	The strategic and operational network of providers and services required to provide timely, responsive care to defined populations based on an agreed minimum level of care, with some local variation for particular health needs and service contexts
Community Health Hub	The potential physical infrastructure required to enable integrated ways of working within locality networks, with modification of the scale and scope of the hub determined by population size and existing infrastructure

Action Plan

Introducing the Action Plan

The Southern Primary and Community Care Strategy describes our vision and goals for transforming primary and community care services, within the context of the overall Southern health system. This Action Plan sets out the initial phases for achieving this vision.

The Action Plan has three action areas for delivering on the Strategy (see right): care models; enabling infrastructure; and support for adoption. These action areas form the basis of the Action Plan.

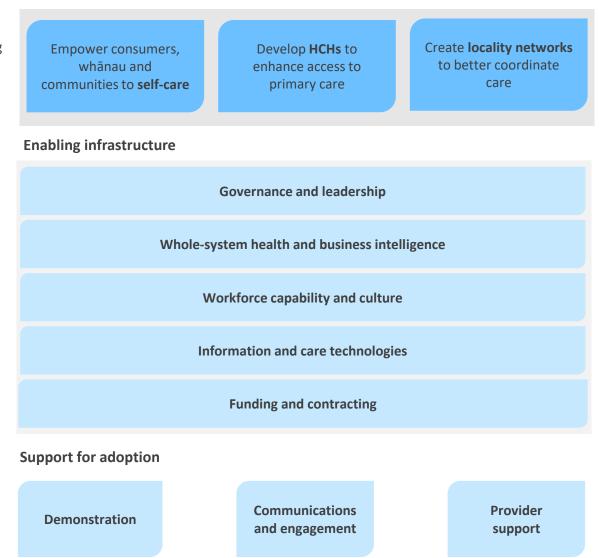
The action areas will be progressed concurrently, with sequencing of activities and milestones. Roll-out of new care models will be undertaken in tranches to enable manageable design, adoption and evaluation.

A roadmap for each of the action areas is presented in this Action Plan to guide early progress on achieving the Strategy.

Overall, delivering on our vision and goals for primary and community care will require reconfiguring how parts of the system fit together. This will include:

- How health services are organised
- ► Care processes and systems that support care models
- ► Governance and leadership of the system
- Health and business intelligence to support planning, funding and delivery
- Information and communications systems to enable enhanced access to information for consumers and the workforce
- Funding and contracting arrangements that support integrated ways of working and improved performance.

Care models



The Action Plan: Transforming primary and community care

The system is configured to enable new care models, and implementation of the Strategy at pace and scale

The **organisation of health services** will reinforce the concept that primary care is consumers' first point of contact for addressing their needs and their source of continuity of holistic care. In the future, the preferred model of general practice will be the Health Care Home (HCH) model. Wrapped around the HCH will be a locality network to integrate services for people with more complex needs, and enable effective step-up and step-down care. Locality networks will bring together personal health, mental health & addictions services, palliative care, and aged care services, with access to specialist support. In some instances, some services will be co-located in Community Health Hubs.

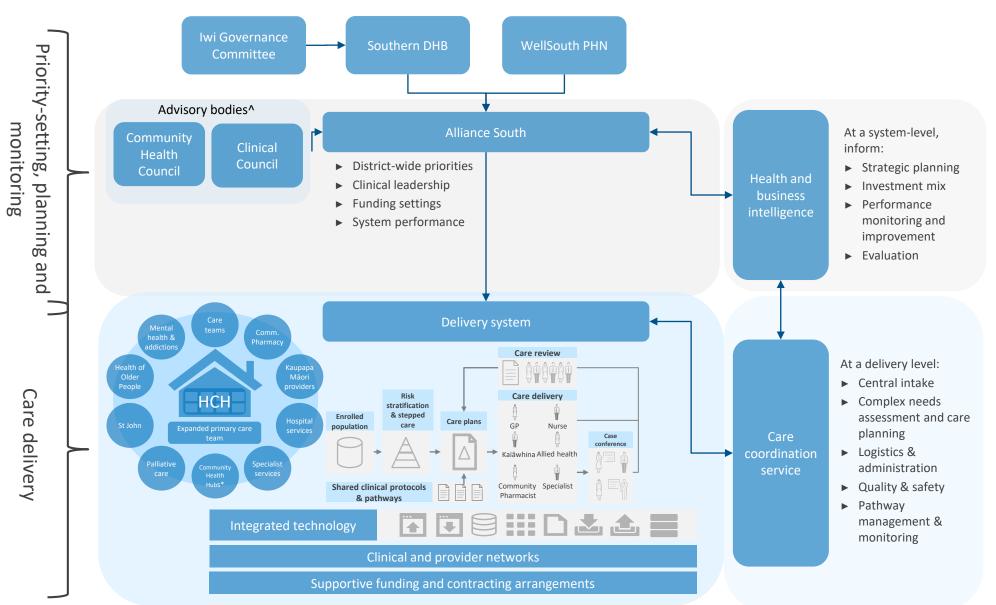
Care processes and systems will be based on risk stratification and a stepped care approach. This will be the linchpin that links the HCH and locality network, and access to specialist support. Needs assessment and care planning processes will be consumer-focused, and determine the level and type of support a person requires. Shared care plans, care pathways ('HealthPathways') and service directories will support timely and smooth consumer access to care. A key focus will be on prevention and early intervention.

To provide coherence to the system, **governance and leadership** at the district level will be revised to better plan and prioritise resources to address population health needs. The Alliance South arrangement between Southern DHB and WellSouth PHN will be revised. The Alliance will determine district-wide primary and community care priorities, set the parameters for service planning, and track and monitor overall system performance, including delivery on the Strategy and Action Plan. At a delivery level, locality networks will be used to translate district-wide priorities into service planning and actions. For particular high priority disease groupings (e.g. cardiovascular and respiratory disease) and population groups (e.g., vulnerable children, frail elderly), clinical and provider networks could support district-wide consistency in care access and outcomes, as well as sharing learnings and innovations. This will complement locality networks.

Health and business intelligence will be strengthened at strategic and operational levels through development of a shared health and business intelligence function, and an expanded and enhanced care coordination service. The health and business intelligence function will inform planning, prioritisation and performance improvement at district-wide, locality and primary care levels, including Alliance South. A care coordination service will support the smooth operation of the primary and community care system, working with HCHs and locality networks to coordinate complex needs assessment and care planning, administration, logistics, resourcing, and monitoring of care.

Information systems will enable primary care, locality networks and specialist services to access and share information related to consumer care, and for consumers to access this information through an online portal. A key development will be an electronic health record (EHR) for each consumer. The increasing comprehensiveness of this record will eventually allow collection of information from consumer devices, genetics and other factors related to an individual's health. A single data repository and technology solution for enabling enhanced health and business intelligence will be implemented. More integrated communication systems will facilitate consumers to access the right care at the right time for their needs.

Funding and contracting approaches will be revised to reduce duplication of effort and resources, and enable collaboration between providers and care model innovation. They will become more results-focused, and aligned with a transparent performance and incentive framework, cascading from district to locality to provider and practitioner levels.



The Action Plan: How the system will be configured

*Community Health Hub infrastructure to be determined.

^ Also provides advice directly to Southern DHB on matters outside the scope of the Alliance South work programme

Our commitment

Take a principled approach: We will...

Improve equity of outcomes, particularly for Māori and rural communities

Provide equitable access to appropriate 24/7 care across the district

Make our health system easy to use

Support our population to live well and self-care

Make all decisions in the best interests of our population and consumers (using the quadruple aim)

Take an investment approach that prioritises evidencebased interventions to improve long-term outcomes

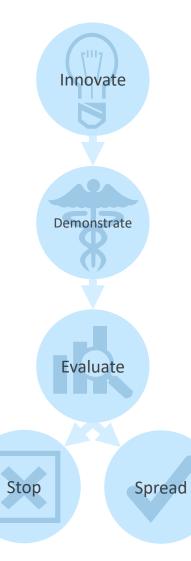
Move from traditional ways of working to be fit-forthe-future

Treat each other with trust and respect

Operate as one system, making the best use of available resources

Utilise our education partners to develop a workforce matched to population need

Innovate and be courageous



Align incentives

Funding and contracting approaches will progressively incentivise primary, community and hospital care to work collaboratively to achieve the optimal mix of services across settings, and to improve access, outcomes and resource use



Action area 1: Care models

Support consumers and whānau to self-care

Helping people develop or further build their **health literacy** is critical for enabling health maintenance, and to knowing when and how to access services. Broadly, health literacy means the ability to access, process and utilise information to make appropriate and informed decisions. People with good health literacy can make informed and appropriate health decisions, and better manage their own health. This leads to better consumer and whānau outcomes and more effective use of health resources. Strengthening health literacy will have two core components:

- A targeted focus on public education about the core role of primary care, including when, how, and where to access services for urgent needs
- Developing the health literacy competencies of the health workforce, particularly in regards to working with Māori (see Workforce Capability Development).

To make it easier for consumers and whānau to participate in their health and well-being, and access services more conveniently, **consumer portal** access and technology will be expanded and enhanced. Over time this will become a single point of 'virtual' contact for consumers with the Southern health system.

Through a staged development path, the consumer portal will provide consumers with access to:

- Their health-related information, and eventually, their relevant social care information
- ▶ Certified self-care information related to health risks and conditions
- ► Virtual health consultations (e.g. email, video, telephone)
- Initial diagnosis, triage and care options (public and private)
- Navigation to the right care for their health needs
- Education and research opportunities.

For people with long-term conditions or who suffer from mental health and/or addiction issues, evidence suggests that **peer support approaches** can improve

self-management and adherence with care plans. Opportunities to enable peer support through vehicles such as consumer networks, group sessions and social media will be explored and progressed. Efforts will be directed towards conditions and issues where evidence suggests the best self-care gains can be made.

Supporting consumers and whānau to self-care will be achieved through taking a **Health in All Policies (HiAP)** approach, strengthening health literacy, encouraging peer support, and providing enhanced access to care and information for consumers through an online portal.

A HiAP approach to working with other sectors will be used to address the major risk factors that contribute to inequities, avoidable acute demand and amenable mortality. HiAP will form the basis of a joint work programme between Public Health South and WellSouth PHN.

Initial areas of focus will include:

- Health-promoting environments (tobacco control; nutrition and physical activity; alcohol; housing)
- Supporting economic and social development to improve income and employment outcomes
- ▶ Improving community resilience to build mental health and wellness
- ▶ Building community participation and networking
- Establishing the health sector as one of a number of civic agencies (including local government, education, other government agencies and local NGO and business leaders) that act in concert to improve health and wellbeing.

Making a difference in these areas will require bringing public health, population health and personal health services closer together, as well as building partnerships with community organisations and other sectors including local government.

Support consumers and whānau to self-care – *Building health literacy*

Headline action		Phases			
	Activity	1	2	3	
Headline action 1.1 – Build the health literacy of the Southern population and workforce with a particular focus on acute demand management	a. Identify gaps in existing health literacy information, and develop targeted, culturally appropriate resources (including for people with disabilities), with consumer and provider involvement, taking into consideration the proposed consumer online portal and existing and planned health promotion activities.				
	 Using positive messages, actively promote appropriate use of health services, reinforcing primary care as a consumer's gateway to other health care, with tailoring of content to key pressures and priorities. For example, discouraging lower urgency presentations to the Dunedin and Invercargill Emergency Departments. 				
	c. Develop whole of system website, more easily directing users to the services they need.				
	d. Upskill the health workforce in building community, whānau and consumer health literacy, and making it an expected competency of all health workers - competence in working with Māori and Pacifica being a key area for development (see: Headline Action 5.2, c-d)				

Support consumers and whānau to self-care – *Expanding and enhancing consumer portal access*

Headline action			Phases			
	Activity	1	2	3		
Headline action 1.2 – Expand and enhance consumer portal access to provide consumers with access to all of their health information and care team	a. Encourage uptake of the existing consumer portal, based on successful uptake approaches used in New Zealand and internationally					
	b. Provide consumers with access to self-care information related to priority health conditions (e.g., diabetes; cardiovascular disease; COPD; asthma; depression; anxiety)					
	c. Introduce consumer access to virtual health consultations (e.g. email, video, telephone, appointment bookings)					
	d. Progressively integrate community care information into the consumer portal, aligned with HCH and locality network development, and accessible via a whole of system web site					
	e. Provide consumers with artificial intelligence-supported access to initial diagnosis, triage and care options (public and private)					
	f. In addition to their health record, provide consumers with access to their relevant social care information					

Support consumers and whānau to self-care – Strengthening peer support

Headline action	Activity		Phases		
			2	3	
Headline action 1.3 – Strengthen peer support mechanisms for people experiencing: i. Mental health issues ii. Addiction issues iii. Significant prioritised long-term conditions	a. Engage with consumers, whānau, communities, and the wider social sector, considering existing initiatives (e.g. <i>Raise HOPE</i>) to understand what will work best for peer support including enlisting people into peer support approaches, settings (e.g. church, home, clinic, marae), delivery channels (e.g., social media), and how such approaches can be culturally and socially relevant for different cohorts (e.g., Māori, youth, older people)				
 Significant profitised folg-term conditions (COPD, heart failure, stroke) or multi co- morbidities iv. Social isolation v. Obesity 	b. Work with stakeholders to introduce new peer support mechanisms as agreed, (e.g. group sessions and social media-based groups), reviewing and evaluating these (including obtaining feedback from people engaged in the groups) annually or at other agreed intervals, and adjust, scale or stop these depending on their uptake and value.				

Support consumers and whānau to self-care – *Taking a Health in All Policies approach*

			Phases		
Headline action	Activity	1	2	3	
Headline action 1.4 – Take a Health In All Policies (HiAP) Approach to address the major risk factors that contribute to inequities, avoidable acute demand and amenable mortality.	 a. Develop and implement a Health in All Policies Action Plan to support effective inter-sectoral action on: Health-promoting environments (tobacco control; nutrition and physical activity; alcohol; housing) Supporting economic and social development to improve income and employment outcomes Improving community resilience to build mental health and wellness Building community participation and networking Establishing the health sector as one of a number of civic agencies (including local government, other Government Ministries and local NGO and business leaders) that act in concert to improve health and wellbeing (and reduce demand pressure on healthcare services) 				
	b. Develop a Southern District Health Promotion Strategy outlining how Public Health , WellSouth PHN and other key stakeholders will work together				
	c. Public Health South and WellSouth are co-located (virtually or physically), working together to reduce inefficiencies and avoid duplication				
	d. Review and evaluate HiAP initiatives annually or at other agreed intervals, and adjust, scale or stop initiatives depending on performance				

Development of health care home

To enable general practice to better match care with need and provide opportunities for professionally rewarding practice, the development of HCHs will be encouraged and supported. This will reinforce and reinvigorate general practice's role as the key source of continuity of holistic care and gateway to the wider health system for people and their whānau.

The HCH model will enhance the capacity and capability of general practice through development of new roles, skills, and ways of working. This will include new clinical and non-regulated workforce roles to support the traditional practice team members (GP, practice nurse, and receptionist) - enabling clinicians to work at top of their scopes of practice, and freeing up resources to enable timely and responsive care.

The HCH model will also have a strong focus on making the best use of digital technologies, through promotion of 'virtual health' approaches such as telephone, email, and video consultations, and system generated consumer contacts (e.g. screening reminders), and data-driven risk stratification to identify and target people most at-risk of poorer outcomes.

The development of HCHs in Southern will be informed by New Zealand and international models including the model of care requirements set out by the New Zealand Health Care Home Collaborative*. The Collaborative's model of care has four domains:

- Ready access to urgent and unplanned care
- ▶ Proactive care for those with more complex needs
- Better routine and preventative care
- ► Improved business efficiency for sustainability.

Each domain has a set of elements, characteristics, and measures. The requirements also describe a practice credentialing process that can lead to certification as an HCH. The requirements build on the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners Foundation and Cornerstone accreditation standards. General practices in Southern will be encouraged to develop in-line

with the Collaborative's requirements, with application of these tailored for practice context.

Key components of the HCH model to be developed in Southern will include:

- ► Being the key source of holistic care for consumers
- Using risk stratification and formalised needs assessment to target workforce time and effort to people with higher needs
- > An expanded primary care team through introduction of new workforce roles
- Development of higher skills within scopes of practice, and delegation of clinical and non-clinical functions within the team
- Active engagement in the education of undergraduate and postgraduate students, as well as participation in primary care research networks
- Redesigned processes that streamline operations within the HCH, and enable urgent and extended consultations
- ▶ Use of virtual health approaches to enhance access
- Use of system-generated contacts to support proactive practice engagement with consumers
- ► Use of evidence-based care pathways
- Active involvement in care planning and delivery with DHB and NGO services as part of locality networks
- ► Working in a hub and spoke model through alignment with large Community Health Hubs networked with other locality providers (see overleaf).

HCH development will be undertaken in tranches via a contestable expressions of interest process. The first tranche will be considered demonstrators of the new model. Between four and eight HCHs are likely to be selected in tranche 1.

Development of health care home – *Designing and implementing a Southern Health Care Home model*

Headline action			Phases			
	Activity	1	2	3		
Headline action 2.1 - Early adopter general practices are enlisted to demonstrate and fine-tune the HCH model, with the aim that early adopters to cover about one-third of the Southern population	 a. Through a contestable process, identify early adopter Tranche 1 general practices, willing to explore innovative service models and co-design the HCH model in-line with the Health Care Home Collaborative's four domains: Urgent and unplanned care Proactive care for those with more complex needs Routine and preventative care Business efficiency 					
	 b. Understand the population that will be served by a specific Tranche 1 HCH, considering: Health and social needs Use of primary, community and hospital care Risk factors for poorer health and social outcomes Access and service preferences 					

Development of health care home – *Designing and implementing a Southern Health Care Home model cont'd*

Headline action			Phases		
	Activity	1	2	3	
Headline action 2.1 <i>cont'd</i> - Early adopter general practices are enlisted to demonstrate and fine-tune the HCH model, with the aim that early adopters to cover about one-third of the Southern population	 c. Working with potential Tranche 1 HCHs: Apply the Health Care Home Collaborative's maturity matrix to assess the maturity of the practice's model of care Map current workflows, workforce resourcing and use of technology to identify priorities for redesign Undertake co-design workshops to redesign care and workforce models Provide confidential financial modelling support for the potential HCH practice to understand the business implications of transforming their model of care Determine the likely strategic and operational relationships and transition steps within a locality network Develop a transition plan to meet the requirements of a HCH 				
	d. Commence implementation of Tranche 1 HCH models of care				
	e. Evaluate HCH progress and adjust the approach depending on progress and performance				
	f. Identify Tranche 2 general practices for HCH development				
	g. Begin co-design work with Tranche 2 HCHs				

Development of Community Health Hubs

It is likely that the future primary care system will include practices or configurations of practices that serve populations of, ideally, between 7,500 and 30,000 enrolled service users (this may vary slightly according to their location and connection with other services, and will need to be flexible enough to respond to varying geography and the local service context). The larger this configuration, the more opportunity there will be to deliver a broader scope of services, culminating in designation as a Community Health Hub, which colocates relevant DHB and NGO community services, and provides for a level of ambulatory specialist care (either by primary practitioners with special interests or DHB / private specialists). Community Health Hubs will be developed through either existing infrastructure or new sites. In rural areas, rural hospitals may act as a hub but with the explicit expectation that this includes primary care delivering the HCH model of care. In Dunedin and Invercargill, purpose-built facilities may be developed, which may include delivery of some specialist outpatient services, possibly in collaboration with the University of Otago. The expected set of services to be delivered from Community Health Hubs include:

- General practice using a HCH model of care, with facility and technology enablers to support the care model (see previous page), and ensuring links with other local general practices
- Onsite community and clinical pharmacy services
- Community diagnostics (e.g. radiology; laboratory specimen collection), where this is economically feasible
- Space for visiting specialist clinics and minor procedures, matched to population needs and economic viability (i.e. not duplicating existing infrastructure which cannot be scaled back e.g. Southland Hospital outpatient facility space)
- Provide space for 'housing' DHB and NGO community health services (e.g. district nursing; physiotherapy) including staff, vehicles and supplies, with 'housing' arrangements designed to maximise building strong team-based ways of working with the HCH team
- Urgent care capacity to a suitable scope to handle clinically appropriate emergency care cases (e.g., resuscitation capacity)

 Observation beds, and where a rural hospital is acting as the Community Health Hub, clinically appropriate overnight stay capacity.

A rule-set for determining the optimal mix and distribution of Community Health Hubs across the district will be developed. Key principles for Hub selection and development are likely to include:

- Primary and community care will be integrated as part of a Community Health Hub, and will be delivering a HCH model of care
- Primary care operating within each Community Health Hub will have strong operational relationships with non-Community Health Hub practices and will accept all consumers referred to Community Health Hub services irrespective of where they are enrolled
- Community Health Hub services will not seek to encourage consumers enrolled with another practice to enrol at the hub. Where a consumer elects to enrol with the Community Health Hub, a standard enrolment stand-down period will apply (i.e. 3-months)
- All practices operating within a locality served by a Community Health Hub will contribute to a shared extended hours / after-hours care roster (delivered from the Community Health Hub), with defined capitation 'clawbacks' or other mechanisms to ensure financial viability (it is expected to be fiscally neutral within capitated funding streams)
- Where DHB-funded specialist services are provided from a Community Health Hub, the DHB and hub will have a formal agreement related to leasing of clinic space including any financial costs
- The Community Health Hub will operate a transparent and agreed copayment policy for DHB services transferred to the hub.

In Dunedin, a key consideration for Community Health Hub design will be any development of ambulatory care infrastructure as part of the hospital rebuild. There will be a range of options that could work, and as planning for the hospital rebuild progresses these will be explored.

Community Health Hub model and relationship with locality networks



* Community nursing, allied health (e.g., physiotherapy, dieticians, occupational therapy), health promotion, dental

Community Health Hub infrastructure will differ given geographic context, population size and existing infrastructure. The figure opposite provides a stylised example of a Community Health Hub model.

As an illustration of how this could work in practice, a Community Health Hub model could be developed in Invercargill. This model would consolidate a number of general practices and their enrolled populations to provide sufficient scale for a wide range of collocated and visiting services. The hub could be developed in north Invercargill to avoid duplication with Southland Hospital services. The hub would provide core primary care bolstered by enhanced urgent care capacity (including clinically appropriate ambulance referrals through defined clinical protocols), on-site pharmacy and diagnostics, and clinical space for hospital specialist care and minor procedures.

A critical component of Community Health Hub development would be co-location and integration of community health services, which would provide both mobile services (e.g. community nursing home visits) and in-clinic services such as rehabilitation. With the HCH expanded primary care team, these community services would form the core of multidisciplinary teams delivering care in clinic and homebased settings, including aged residential care.

Through locality network development, the Community Health Hub and other health and social services would develop strategic and operational relationships for care delivery for the catchment population. This will include developing appropriate relationships with other general practices within the locality including cross referrals to primary and community practitioners with special interests.

With the increased scale of physical infrastructure, the Community Health Hub would include spaces for peer support sessions, teaching and learning activities, and teambuilding.

In other settings, hub infrastructure might be configured around a rural hospital site or as a standalone facility incorporating community health and ambulatory care services.

Development of Community Health Hub infrastructure

			Phases			
Headline action	Activity	1	2	3		
Headline action 2.2 – Encourage the development of Community Health Hub infrastructure to support locality networks	 a. Develop a rule-set to determine the optimal mix and distribution of Community Health Hubs to support locality networks including: Catchment population size Distance from an acute hospital Alignment with existing or proposed infrastructure including any ambulatory care hubs developed as part of the Dunedin Hospital rebuild Scope of services proposed to be included in a Community Health Hub Potential to promote integrated ways of working across primary, community and secondary care Principles to guide care model design Note that: Potential infrastructure could be developed using Southern DHB, WellSouth PHN, or private funding (including the University of Otago) Rural hospital facilities or large rural general practices may be designated as Community Health Hubs, with any development needs identified during locality network design 					

Development of Community Health Hub infrastructure *cont'd*

Headline action			Phases			
	Activity	1	2	3		
Headline action 2.2 <i>cont'd</i> – Encourage the development of Community Health Hub infrastructure to support locality networks	 b. Apply the rule-set to determine efficient configuration of Community Health Hubs, including consideration of including ambulatory secondary care within the scope of service (with suitable alignment with any development of ambulatory care hubs in Dunedin), with early priorities being*: Orthopaedics (e.g. fracture clinics) Dermatology Ophthalmology V. ENT Women's health Mental health & addictions High volume, low complexity medical services Geriatrics c. Identify design, financing and implementation options, and develop a procurement approach for prioritised Community Health Hub development either as physical infrastructure or as services 					
	d. Enact procurement approach					

* These priorities have been identified through prior planning work e.g. the Southern Strategic Services Plan, Southern Detailed Service Plans A&B, Clinical Leadership Group position papers, scan of national and international literature, and engagement with stakeholders.

Create locality networks to better coordinate care

The Southern district is large, with a diverse range of communities and service contexts. Demographic information suggests that different communities will face very different challenges into the future:

- ▶ Dunedin and Invercargill will grow slowly but age significantly
- Queenstown-Lakes will grow rapidly, and likely become the second largest population centre in the district (after Dunedin)
- ▶ North and Central Otago will also grow, and age
- Other rural areas of Southern may decline in population, but will age significantly.

Service models also vary considerably across the district, with much of this variation the result of historic decisions rather than reflecting the current or future needs of different communities. Addressing these issues is at the heart of locality network development, which is intended to better align models of care with population health needs within a clear, overall district-wide model of care.

The aim of locality networks will be to plan and deliver care closer to where people live, work and play. Risk stratification will be used to identify people who will benefit most from wraparound, integrated care, within a stepped care model. This will build on work that has been progressing through Alliance South, including *Client-led Integrated Care, Raise Hope*, and *Health of Older People Wraparound Support*.

Locality networks will bring together personal health, mental health & addictions, health of older people services and palliative care. Core components of the locality networks will be:

- Primary care
- Multi-disciplinary teams, including primary care, community nursing, allied health, community midwifery, and community mental health & addictions services
- NGO providers (e.g. child health; community pharmacy; midwifery; homebased support; hospice; Māori providers)
- ► Emergency retrieval and transport services
- Residential care and supported living providers
- ► Primary maternity services (including primary birthing facilities)

► Lower-complexity hospital services.

The locality networks will be supported by an expanded and enhanced care coordination service (see: Supporting Infrastructure), which will provide a point of intake to and deployment of relevant locality services, as well as oversight of community care delivery.

Integrated care teams will have the strongest operational linkage with HCHs, providing rapid response for acute crises, in-reach to inpatient services to support early discharge, short and long-term restorative care in community settings, and end-of-life care. In a staged approach, the following services will be integrated into community teams:

- Southern DHB Community Health Services (e.g. district nursing; allied health; mental health & addictions services)
- DHB-funded NGO services (e.g. child health; long-term conditions services delivered through WellSouth PHN; home-based support services; palliative care)
- ► Social care.

Key components of integrated community team development will include:

- Creating strong relationships with HCHs based on defined care pathways and shared care models, and supporting ongoing professional development with an emphasis on team care
- Consolidating significant primary and community health workforces that serve a locality, to deliver the benefits of critical mass, interdisciplinary teamwork, local responsiveness, and shared care for consumers and whānau
- Quality and standard design and implementation
- ► Identifying and actioning education and learning development opportunities
- Enabling community step-down models of acute care (mental health, older people, and lower acuity medical needs) through tailored support packages for people in their place of residence.

The integrated care teams will include the care coordinator role which will act as a navigator and broker of the journey for people with complex needs. The coordinator will work with HCHs, other locality providers and the care coordination service to ensure that consumers' care is delivered in line with their care plans. 26

Create locality networks to better coordinate care cont'd

DHB specialist advice and support will be available to HCHs and integrated care teams for people who require this. Key specialist services - including cardiology, respiratory, psychiatry, paediatrics, endocrinology (diabetes) and geriatrics - will support primary and community care.

Over time, teamwork within the locality network may be further enhanced by co-location of the interdisciplinary team in a Community Health Hub. Where the size of a HCH supports it, the team could be co-located with a HCH (as is the case now for some services at larger general practice sites). In rural areas, the Community Health Hub is likely to be the local rural hospital, where one exists, or larger HCHs where distance makes it more cost-effective to integrate services in this way. In Dunedin and Invercargill, purpose-built facilities may be developed, which may include delivery of some specialist outpatient services, possibly in collaboration with the University of Otago. Key development steps for locality networks will include:

Determining the scope of locality networks

*

- Prioritising and sequencing service development within localities
- Understanding current and future demand, capacity and capabilities within each network, and priority gaps to be addressed. These may include futureproofing locality infrastructure by increasing the capacity and / or scope of services in anticipation of demand, or laying the foundation for future expansion in-line with population needs
- The workforce and capability development needed to meet locality network requirements and the necessary supports from tertiary programmes, such as the University of Otago's rural health training and inter-professional learning programmes
- Determining strategic and operational relationships that are required to support the effective functioning of a network
- Exploring the potential for Community Health Hub infrastructure, including the placement of primary birthing facilities and the infrastructure required to support delivery of ambulatory secondary care
- Aligning funding and contracting arrangements to the locality network model, with a progressive focus on shared accountability for population access and

outcomes.

Locality network development will be staged. The prioritisation, sequencing, design and implementation of this will take into consideration:

- ▶ Size and scale to make a material difference to health and social outcomes
- ▶ Readiness of the services to proceed at pace and scale
- ► Alignment with primary care
- Defining the role of rural hospitals in integrated models of primary and community care for their catchment populations
- Ability to translate learnings from service integration to other services to be progressively included within the locality network
- ► Alignment with proof of concept locality network initiatives (see below)
- ► The capability of Southern DHB and WellSouth PHN to successfully advance locality network development over the three year period.

The learnings from implementation of services will enable the number of services in the future to increase. Two 'proof of concept' service models will be also be advanced to test and demonstrate more integrated ways of working across services and settings:

- An integrated respiratory service, which brings together primary, community and secondary care for people with significant lung disease
- An integrated rapid response and enablement team, bringing together primary care, community nursing and allied health, and secondary care specialists, with a focus on the frail elderly.

Create locality networks to better coordinate care – *Defining locality network services*

	Activity		Phases			
Headline action	Αςτινιτά	1	2	3		
Headline action 3.1 – Define locality network services, and prioritise implementation sequence	 a. Define a minimum set of service and workforce requirements and associated models of care to form a locality network, with this expected to include (on a staged basis): Integration of DHB Community Services and WellSouth PHN community services (e.g. LTC service) into multidisciplinary teams wrapped around primary care Formal specialist support for primary and community care from prioritised secondary care services*: Emergency medicine Cardiology Respiratory Beria Respiratory Geriatrics Women's Health Development of advanced primary and community care practitioner roles Integrating rural hospitals in rural primary and community models of care, and strengthening their relationships with Dunedin and Invercargill hospitals Further development opportunities for rural primary care supporting increased access to technology-enabled clinical interventions Integration with public health, population health and NGO community services Coordinated ways of working with social sector providers (e.g. representatives from or clear referral pathways to Housing, MSD, Corrections etc.) Primary care research network development Learning and training network development 					
	 Considering geography, population size and other agreed factors, and through engagement with key stakeholders (e.g. health and wider social sector representatives, community representatives), clearly define the coverage of population-bound locality networks 					
	 c. Develop for each defined locality a strategic view of: Population health needs Service use Service availability and configuration An explicit equity of access and outcome assessment (see: 8.4.a). 					

* These priorities have been identified through prior planning work e.g. the Southern Strategic Services Plan, Southern Detailed Service Plans A&B, Clinical Leadership Group position papers, scan of national and international literature, and engagement with stakeholders.

Create locality networks to better coordinate care – *Defining locality network services* cont'd

Headline action	Activity	Phases			
		1	2	3	
Headline action 3.1 <i>cont'd</i> – Define locality network services, and prioritise implementation sequence	 d. Based on activities a through c, prioritise the design and implementation of services to be progressively incorporated into locality networks, with consideration of: Size and scale to make a material difference on health and social outcomes Readiness of the services to proceed at pace and scale Alignment with primary care Defining the role of rural hospitals in integrated models of primary and community care for their catchment populations Ability to translate learnings from service integration to other services to be progressively included within the locality network Alignment with proof of concept locality network initiatives The capability of Southern DHB and WellSouth PHN to successfully advance locality network development over the three year period Quality and safety requirements Education and learning development opportunities 				

Create locality networks to better coordinate care - *Design and implement locality network services*

Headline action	Activity	Phases			
		1	2	3	
Headline action 3.2 - Design and implementation of locality network services, which integrate care for defined populations	a. For locality network services, develop a comprehensive understanding of current and future population health needs for their covered population				
	b. Understand the scope and capacity of locality network services and workforces, and their existing operational configuration, including service catchments, policies and procedures, and current engagement with primary care. Identify significant service and workforce gaps based on projected future population health needs				
	c. Conduct a quality assessment to determine the extent that services within locality network services are addressing population health needs through evidence-based, culturally responsive and coordinated ways of working				
	d. Refine as necessary existing risk stratification and stepped care approaches used in Southern to enable locality network operations				
	e. Ensure shared care planning processes and systems are in place to enable integrated ways of working between locality network providers				
	f. Extend Health Pathways to become whole-system pathways to support safe and effective transitions of care for locality services				

Create locality networks to better coordinate care – *Design and implement locality network services cont'd*

Headline action	Activity	Phases			
		1	2	3	
Headline action 3.2 <i>cont'd</i> - Design and implementation of locality network services, which integrate care for defined populations	 g. Identify potential NGO capability requirements to deliver on proposed models of care for initial services, including <i>inter alia</i>: Retrieval and transfer infrastructure (e.g. air and land ambulances and storage facilities) to support efficient flows Rural Hospital redevelopment as appropriate to meet future demand needs and enable delivery of broader services as agreed within role development, based on catchment population need Increasing the capability and capacity of aged residential care providers to provide step-up or step-down care for older patients, through redevelopment of existing facilities or development of additional ARC capacity Working with the NGO sector and wider social agencies to provide an increased range of accommodation options (including respite care) for people with mental health and/or addiction needs, and end of life care, across the Southern district h. Initial locality network services operational implementation commenced i. Additional locality network service planning started 				

Create locality networks to better coordinate care – *Design and implement integrated respiratory service*

Headline action	Activity	Phases			
		1	2	3	
Headline action 3.3 – Working through a clinically-led Service Development Group, design and implement proof of concept integrated respiratory service to generate early improvement, and inform ongoing service design and implementation	a. Ensure 90% of smokers with a respiratory illness diagnosis are offered smoking cessation advice and referral to the Southern Smoking Cessation Service at every clinical interaction, including by St John				
	b. Establish a funded SDHB-credentialed community-based spirometry service, which accommodates appropriate close to home access to this service				
	c. Establish a community pulmonary rehabilitation programme to standardised and agreed criteria of assessment and programme delivery based on international standards				
	d. Ensure an ambulance diversion pathway for COPD is operational in all localities				
	e. Ensure planned care initiatives for respiratory patients are in place, including personalised care plans, acute plans, blue cards, medicines optimisation, and advance care plans				
	f. Ensure a discharge bundle is in place for all patients with a primary diagnosis of COPD				
	g. Work with stakeholders to determine extent and time of introducing an integrated cardiology service				

Create locality networks to better coordinate care – *Design and implement rapid response and enablement service*

Headline action	Activity	Phases			
		1	2	3	
Headline action 3.4 – Design and implement proof of concept integrated rapid response and enablement community service to generate early improvement, and inform ongoing locality network design and implementation	a. Map and consolidate existing DHB rapid response and enablement services				
	b. Select proof of concept testing locality				
	 c. Design the service model required to deliver an enhanced rapid response and enablement service (including POAC), with a transition plan for progressively including: DHB services WSPHN services NGO services 				
	d. Test (as a proof of concept) an enhanced rapid response and enablement service				
	e. With the support of the shared health and business intelligence function, test and evaluate the performance of the integrated rapid response and enablement service				
	f. Consider scaling the proof of concept service to additional localities for further refinement and testing				

Create locality networks to better coordinate care – *Design and initial implementation of a new primary maternity system of care*

Headline action	Activity	Phases			
		1	2	3	
Headline action 3.5 – Design and begin implementation of a new primary maternity system of care	 Applying the principles of critical mass, future population trends and promoting equity for communities, develop a plan for future development of a primary maternity system across the district. The system will be midwifery-led, woman- and-family centred, promote primary birthing facilities and home birth for well women with normal pregnancies, use consistent policies procedures and quality improvement frameworks while operating as a network across all facilities. Services will be provided in i. Tier 1 – non birthing units ii. Tier 2 - primary birthing units iii. Tier 3 – obstetric services units 				
	 b. Map the overall network of maternity services including LMC midwives, rural hospitals, emergency services, PRIME doctors, laboratory and imaging services, pregnancy and parenting community-based breastfeeding support, and general practices. Identify gaps and: strengthen information technology platforms to link the network – telemedicine develop a communications strategy / plan to promote primary birthing gather information for feasibility studies in Invercargill and Dunedin and complete agree the business model and implement 				
	c. Work with local stakeholders, to implement the system of care – tier 1 and tier 2 – and ensure they are well linked to tier 3 obstetric services				
	d. Feasibility study to determine the need for a primary birthing facility in Dunedin, and determine the impact of both Balclutha and Winton primary birthing facilities				

Create locality networks to better coordinate care – *Design and initial implementation of access to diagnostics (ATD) programme*

Headline action	Activity	Phases			
		1	2	3	
Headline action 3.6 – Develop an access to diagnostics (ATD) programme to improve ATD in primary and community care settings	a. Establish a clinical partnership group to develop clinical guidance for the programme, and a framework for the programme moving forward				
	b. Identify conditions for which diagnostics can be ordered and delivered in the community as a safe and more convenient alternative to referral to secondary care outpatients services				
	c. Develop processes for payment and claiming specifications in line with POAC				
	d. Align the ATD criteria with the hospital referral criteria to ensure consistency of access				
	e. Develop clinical audit processes to monitor appropriateness of use				
	f. Establish shared governance for the routine review of the programme, as well as risk management				
	g. Develop a systems approach to ATD in-line with the development of Health Pathways, to shift an increasing number of diagnostics to the community, and to accommodate key enablers of Health Pathways as these are developed				

Create locality networks to better coordinate care – Deliver on optimisation of Primary, Urgent Care and Emergency Care Services in Invercargill

Headline action	Activity	Phases			
		1	2	3	
Headline action 3.7 – Deliver on optimisation of Primary and Emergency Care Services in Invercargill	 i. Based on the review of primary, urgent care and emergency care demand and capacity undertaken in early 2018: Address gaps and barriers to achieving high quality and equitable access to primary care such as workforce issues, funding settings, and standards of care Address barriers that impede urgent and acute patient flow across the system and best practice recommendations to address barriers Undertake actions to improve an integrated and clear pathway of care between primary care and Southland Hospital ED, and into an inpatient setting where required Consider the potential for reducing variation through the identification of priority Health Pathways b. Align work undertaken to optimise primary, urgent care, and emergency care services in Invercargill with actions planned for development of HCHs and locality networks 				

Action area 2: Supporting infrastructure

Governance and leadership

Given the Southern district's geography and dispersed population, the primary and community care system needs a clear district-wide framework for planning, funding and monitoring system performance and care delivery. The framework needs clear roles and responsibilities for prioritising resources, leading overall development of services to address population health needs, and continuous quality improvement (CQI). At a delivery level, clinical and provider relationships need to be fostered through building local champions and leaders that can successfully translate district priorities into local action.

At a **district level**, the alliancing approach between Southern DHB and WellSouth PHN will be refreshed. This will include revising Alliance leadership structures, membership and terms of reference. The Alliance approach will provide the district-wide framework for planning, funding and monitoring system performance and care delivery. The overarching role of the Alliance will be driving, overseeing, and supporting the delivery of the actions and activities outlined in this Action Plan, and the longer term strategic direction of the Strategy and its links to other district priorities including the new Dunedin Hospital. In fulfilling this role, the Alliance will ensure that the system remains focused on the Strategy and Action Plan, and where any new initiatives or calls for funding are proposed, these are stringently prioritised against the direction of the Strategy and the Action Plan's headline actions.

The other roles of the Alliance are expected to be:

- ▶ Setting funding parameters to inform delivery on the Action Plan
- Providing advice to the Southern DHB Board and WellSouth PHN Board regarding investment decisions to achieve the Strategy and Action Plan
- Convening service-level teams to drive particular planning and design initiatives
- Driving and monitoring progress on the Strategy and Action Plan, and the performance of primary and community care
- ▶ Fostering consumer and clinical engagement, and leadership
- ► Holding locality networks to account for delivering measurable improvement in consumer access, outcomes and system sustainability.

Over time, the Alliance will build partnerships with the wider social sector and local government to support closer multi-agency engagement and a more holistic understanding of the health and social needs of our consumers. This will improve the health literacy of broader social agencies and create a foundation for targeted joint planning and co-investment, both in health and social initiatives, and initiatives that combine the two.

Strong **clinical and provider leadership** will be essential to effect the transformational change that will be required in the system at district and locality levels. Changing workforce behaviours requires acceptance of the need for new ways of working, and recognition of personal and professional responsibilities. Identifying key leaders throughout Southern, building their leadership capability, and providing the support they require will be a critical investment to support execution of the Strategy. This will include:

- Southern DHB's Clinical Council being a mechanism for district-wide clinical leadership through the reconfigured Alliance, with the Council's terms of reference and membership to be extended to a whole-of-system role
- Clinically-led service level teams to drive particular planning and design initiatives
- ► Active engagement of key providers and practitioners in locality networks.

Building clinical and provider leadership and engagement will:

- Align the culture of primary, community and secondary health services across Southern with the principles of transparency, comparison, learning and improvement
- Articulate a clear and consistent vision at the 'coal face'
- Build trusting inter-organisational, -professional and -personal relationships, and create a culture of learning from each other
- Demonstrate, enable and communicate the future vision for primary and community care in the district
- ▶ Generate momentum by modelling new ways of working.

Governance & leadership – *Refresh alliancing approach*

Headline action				
	Activity	1	2	3
Headline action 4.1 – Refresh the alliancing approach implemented in Southern, including terms of reference, membership and structure	 a. Determine the future Terms of Reference (ToR) for alliancing in Southern including: Purpose Guiding principles Scope and objectives Decision-making framework Dispute resolution mechanisms Clarifying progress, performance and other agreed reporting lines Relationship with other bodies in the Southern health system including but not limited to the lwi Governance Committee, Community Health Council and Clinical Council 			
	b. Refresh Alliance membership (including at least members from Southern DHB, WellSouth PHN and the University of Otago) and ensure all members have undergone alliancing training			
	 c. Clarify and delegate accountabilities for delivering on the Primary & Community Care Strategy and Action Plan either through: Service level leadership teams for time-bound initiatives Dedicated workstreams for enduring activity 			
	d. Confirm an investment strategy and joint approach for delivering on the Primary & Community Care Strategy and Action Plan			
	e. Implement a simplified and consistent business case process for Alliance service-level and workstream activity development and decision-making			

Governance & leadership – Encourage establishment of clinical and provider networks

Headline action		Phases			
	Activity	1	2	3	
Headline action 4.2 – Encourage clinical and provider networks to support locality network strategic and operational delivery	 a. Identify and build the capability of local leaders and champions of integrated approaches to care delivery, as envisaged by locality networks, through a leadership development programme. Key roles for local leaders and champions to include: Aligning the culture of primary, community and secondary health services across Southern with the values of transparency, comparison, learning and improvement Articulating a clear and consistent vision at the 'coal face' Building trusting inter-organisational, -professional and -personal relationships , and creating a culture of learning from each other Demonstrating, enabling and communicating the future vision for primary and community care in the district Generating momentum by modelling new ways of working Develop visual resources to reflect the shared purpose of participants across the sector, for use across all providers' communications materials 				
	b. Through the shared health and business intelligence function, provide regular transparent analytics reports to locality networks that benchmark locality performance on agreed measures. The reports are to be available to all members of the locality network				
	 c. Encourage participation in professional development activities that include but are not limited to: Peer review Fostering team based ways of working Professional relationships across care settings (e.g., nursing) Research and learning 				
	d. Review and align funding and contracts across locality network providers with a focus on moving towards a results-based model for locality networks, with the intention that this supports local problem solving and service development				

Workforce capability and culture

Delivering on the Strategy will require development of new care models and workforce roles, and additional workforce capacity. Currently workforce planning is fragmented across services and organisations. It is also reactive to emerging issues rather than proactive in aligning capability and capacity with planned future care models.

A **Southern Workforce Strategy and Action Plan** will be developed in 2018. The Strategy and Action Plan are expected to determine the workforce roles, capacity and capability needed across the system to deliver the intended care models, access and outcomes, and development needs at district and locality levels. This will include the training needs of existing staff, the roles they need to perform in the future, and the number of staff needed with different skills to deliver within the new care models.

From a primary and community care perspective, the key considerations for the Southern Workforce Strategy and Action Plan Plan will include:

- Better matching workforce distribution with population need through a primary and community care workforce census and projected development survey to establish current demographic and clinical/business needs. This will be supported by a gap analysis to inform and deliver further training/development/workforce needs
- ▶ Expanding the primary care team through the HCH model
- Promoting top of scope practice including designated pathways for regulated health professionals to extend their scopes of practice (e.g. nurse practitioner, GPSI, PNSI, rural hospital medicine, pharmacist)
- Enabling care to be delivered in ways which recognise the importance of te reo Māori and provide for its appropriate use, including the potential to introduce mandatory training for the health workforce
- Promoting non-regulated workforce roles such as health care assistants, health coaches, kaiāwhina and physician assistants
- Increasing Māori and Pacific peoples' participation in the regulated and unregulated workforce

- Addressing any existing local policy settings that get in the way of the efficient use of resources and team based ways of working
- Identifying the appropriate balance between generalism and specialism within the workforce
- Developing capabilities in team-based ways of working across primary, community, secondary and social care
- ► Developing a technology-capable health workforce
- How the professional development curricula and delivery media can help to build relationships within the primary and community care workforce (district-wide and locality specific), support new care models, and provide training for emerging clinical leaders
- Opportunities to better support teaching, training and research in primary and community care, including in partnership with the University of Otago
- ▶ Fostering capable primary and community clinical leaders
- Recognise changing professional expectations such as: feminisation; work / life balance; and employment rather than ownership
- ▶ Describing the actions needed to foster a workforce culture that is:
 - ▶ Consumer-focused, including promoting health literacy and self-care
 - ► Committed to reducing inequities and population health
 - ► Collaborative
 - Identifying opportunities to increase community volunteering activity to support participation and resilience.

Workforce capacity and capability development will need to be supported by tertiary programmes (e.g. the University of Otago's rural health training and inter-professional learning programmes). Strong engagement with tertiary education institutions will therefore be critical during Strategy and Action Plan development to ensure alignment between workforce requirements, and education and training programmes.

Workforce capability and culture - *Build the primary and community care workforce*

Headline action		Phases				
	Activity	1	2	3		
	a. Undertake a primary and community care Demographic and Workforce Development Survey to establish current demographic and clinical/workforce development needs. As part of this, undertake a gap analysis on the data provided to inform and deliver further training/development/workforce needs					
	b. Partner with tertiary and education providers to ensure a sufficient future supply of primary and community care professionals aligned with desired models of care and future demand, and to better support teaching and learning					
Headline action 5.1 - Build the primary and community	c. Promote interprofessional top of scope practice through designated pathways for regulated health professionals to extend their scopes of practice (e.g. nurse practitioner, GPSI, PNSI, rural hospital medicine, advanced allied health professionals, pharmacist)					
	d. Promote and develop a framework for interprofessional clinical practice and safe delegation/skill sharing (e.g. interprofessional team models, use of Calderdale Framework for skill sharing/delegation).					
care workforce in-line with the Southern Health System Workforce Strategy & Action Plan and implementation of HCH and locality networks	e. Develop a primary care research network in partnership with Health Research South					
	 f. Health of older people: i. Provide support to upskill the Aged Residential Care nursing workforce through: a. professional development opportunities b. increased visiting presence of clinical nurse specialists in care facilities c. streamlined access to specialist advice to manage more complex residents ii. Closer working relationships between home-based support services and community health services, as progressed through locality network development 					
	 g. Primary maternity care: Strengthen the primary maternity workforce based on current and projected population needs, including appropriate integration with other primary and community care services <i>(see: Primary Maternity Strategy)</i> Encourage provider and facility networks to support the development of a primary maternity system of care 					

Workforce capability and culture - *Build the primary and community care workforce cont'd*

Headline action	Activity	Phase		
	Activity	1	2	3
Headline action 5.1 <i>cont'd</i> - Build the primary and community care workforce in-line with the Southern Health System Workforce Strategy & Action Plan and implementation of HCH and locality networks	 h. Pharmacy: i. Implement as appropriate Integrated Pharmacist Services in the Community including:			
	 i. Emergency care: Work with St Johns to upskill their workforce to enable top of scope practice Support the ongoing development of the PRIME-trained workforce in rural and remote areas 			
	 j. Address immediate capacity pressures in: Rural primary maternity care Allied health services GP and nursing cover in rural and remote areas 			
	k. Actively promote, and preferentially invest in, growing the Māori and Pacifica primary and community care workforce in partnership with education providers, including potential incentives or priority placements to encourage Māori/Pacifica students to develop in required roles, or existing Māori/Pacifica members of the workforce to develop into extended roles (engage with iwi and community agencies and other key stakeholders in relation to this)			
	I. Through locality network development, identify workforce capacity development needs to deliver desired models of care, and put in place action plans to address these needs			
	m. Work with wider social sector representatives to identify and action opportunities to increase community volunteering activity to support participation and resilience (e.g. visiting ARC facilities, Meals on Wheels)			

Workforce capability and culture – *Identify actions to develop the workforce culture*

Headline action	Activity			
	Αυτοτιγ	1	2	3
	a. Identify and implement evidence-based ways of promoting effective team working between primary, community and secondary care as part of HCH and locality network design and implementation			
Headline action 5.2 - Identification of actions needed to develop the workforce culture required to deliver on the Strategy	 b. Develop a values-based charter that outlines the expected behaviour of all workforce participants, and a training module to introduce existing and new workforce members to these new ways of working, with this to include commitments to: i. person-centred care delivery ii. eliminate inequities in access and outcomes, particularly for Māori iii. work collaboratively across professions, organisations and sectors iv. constructively engage in open and honest appraisal of data, performance and opportunities for improvement 			
	c. Develop mandatory education modules to train all workforce members on values-based ways of working, and engaging in a respectful way with Māori people, understanding their world view to enable the delivery of culturally appropriate care			
	d. Require completion of both the values-based and Māori education modules by all existing staff, and new staff through induction activities			
	e. Create a channel for ongoing feedback from all system participants (workforce and consumers), encouraging transparency around performance in relation to both the system value-set and ways of working, and engaging with Māori			
	f. Leverage expertise within the University of Otago to promote quality and safety, research, and evaluation			

Health and business intelligence

Health and business intelligence plays a vital role in supporting evidence-based planning, funding and care delivery, including supporting the rapid evaluation of initiatives and provision of feedback for performance improvement. This requires a robust system of data collection, analysis, interpretation and reporting. Improved health and business intelligence will be progressed at two levels in the Southern system:

- ► Strategic: development of a shared health and business intelligence function
- ► Operational: an expanded and enhanced care coordination service.

A shared health and business intelligence function will be developed across Southern DHB and WellSouth PHN, and potentially with the University of Otago (e.g. evaluation; research; health economics). The function will consolidate existing resources to drive efficiencies and best use of scarce skills. The key roles of the function will be:

- Maintaining and improving the quality of source data within key databases (including from PMSs), managing access to data, and developing analytical tools
- Supporting strategic planning through the provision of analytical and evidence-based advice, including identifying opportunities to reprioritise investment to achieve better population health access and outcomes
- Supporting performance improvement through data analysis and interpretation; assistance in developing key indicators, health need and services profiles; and identifying unwarranted variation in access and outcomes
- Supporting planning and development within individual services and localities, including making information publicly available
- Providing performance and health outcome information on organisational priorities, including through the System Level Measures Framework
- Supporting the rapid, evidence-based evaluation of initiatives, programmes and models of care. This would include recommendations to adjust, continue, scale or stop, depending on performance over a reasonable time period,

potentially through collaboration with the University of Otago.

To support the health and business intelligence function, data will be integrated across the system into a single data repository. Data will be integrated at an individual consumer level, with need, activity, experience and cost information. This will allow health and care analysis at a population level, as well as locality and consumer cohort levels.

The foundation of the data repository will be consumer level data from general practice, developed to consistent data specifications and business rules. This data will then be integrated with Southern DHB hospital, specialist and community health data. Over time, health and support data from kaupapa Māori providers and other NGOs will also be incorporated into the dataset (including social care where possible).

The dataset will be used to understand how Southern compares with other health systems and how access, quality, and outcomes vary across the district. The dataset will also be used to benchmark general practice, community providers and hospital services against desired metrics, and for defining and actively monitoring performance against appropriate KPIs to identify opportunities for improving access, quality and costs. Performance against KPIs will be shown for Māori and non-Māori populations. This will be linked to the System Level Measures Framework and local contributory measures.

At an operational level, informed by the shared health and business intelligence function, an expanded and enhanced care coordination service will be progressed. The key roles of the service will be:

- Central intake of consumers requiring wraparound care from locality network services
- Assessment of consumers with complex needs, and deployment of resources
- ► Administrative management of funding streams and packages of care
- Maintenance and monitoring of care pathways
- Logistics related to consumer transport and accommodation
- Oversight of community care performance.

Health & business intelligence – Establish a shared health intelligence function

			Phases	
Headline action	Activity	1	2	3
	 a. Define the scope and objectives of the shared health and business intelligence function, informed by New Zealand and international leading practice, including an equity approach to support improving access and outcomes for Māori and rural populations. Scope and objectives to include consideration of: i. Strategic population needs assessment (includes equity considerations) ii. Overall health system outcomes iii. Operational health system operational performance iv. Ability to match expenditure and resource allocation to service utilisation and outcomes. 			
	 Map capabilities required for the health and business intelligence function with existing Southern DHB and WellSouth PHN health and business intelligence capabilities (people, process, technology), and explore opportunities to work with the University of Otago 			
	c. Based on capability mapping, identify and action the necessary development steps for the shared health & business intelligence function			
Headline action 6.1 – Establish a shared health and business intelligence function to guide district-wide and specific service or population analysis	d. Determine governance, structure and location of the shared health and business intelligence function			
	e. Establish a quality improvement framework aligned with the quadruple aim approach, to underpin Action Plan delivery (see: 8.4.a)			
	f. Develop and implement a formal plan for monitoring for equity for Māori and rural populations. This will include a process for collecting data, agreed methods for comparison, an agreed process for identifying areas for action, and a process for monitoring and feeding back on outcomes and progress.			
	g. Develop an integrated system-wide data repository design brief and implementation plan to support the health and business intelligence function, utilising existing infrastructure where possible			
	h. Commence development of the integrated system-wide data repository			
	i. Analytical support provided to Tranche 1 HCH sites			
	j. Analytical support provided to initial locality networks			

Health & business intelligence – *Establish a care coordination approach*

Headline action	Activity			
	Activity	1	2	3
Headline action 6.2 – Establish a care coordination approach	 a. Scope the establishment of an expanded and enhanced district-wide care coordination approach with the following possible functions: Central intake of consumers requiring wraparound care from locality network services Consistent assessment of consumers with complex needs, and deployment of resources Administrative management of funding streams and packages of care Scheduling and rostering of community based teams Maintenance and monitoring of care pathways Logistics related to consumer transport and accommodation Viersight of community care operational performance 			
	 b. Determine the additional services to be covered by a care coordination approach, with early areas of focus being: Rapid enablement and response service POAC levels 2 and 3 Supported discharge planning 			
	c. Develop an implementation plan for an expanded and enhanced care coordination approach			
	d. Commence implementation of the expended and enhanced care coordination approach			

Information and care technologies

New and emerging technologies are rapidly transforming how people engage with each other and with the services they use. In health care, this means how people access health information (including their own records), how they engage with health services, how they interact with people with similar needs, and the health checks (like simple diagnostics) they can do for themselves. It also is transforming how the health workforce interacts with each other, and the range of information they can use to diagnose and care for people.

It is easy to be overly optimistic about technologies in the short-term. However, in the long-term the transformational impact on health care through technology can be easily under-estimated. Given this, a structured and considered approach will be taken to introducing new technology into the Southern health system.

A **Southern Technology Strategy and Action Plan** will be developed in 2018. The Strategy and Action Plan are expected to determine the technology capacity and capability needed across the system to deliver desired care models and ways of working. The Strategy and Action Plan will consider the technology development needs for the system as a whole, and more specific areas of focus such as primary and community care integration with hospital and specialist services.

The South Island health system is comparatively advanced in **information sharing** across the health workforce, with many professionals able to quickly access relevant consumer information across care settings. Our primary health care workforce can also access a wide range of clinical pathways and referral guidelines through Health Pathways, helping them make timely, evidence-based decisions for their registered populations. While we have made progress on improving clinician access to patient information and aspects of clinical communication, we have yet to fully develop the communications and information technology infrastructure to support shared care planning and care delivery, and consumer access to their information.

Approaches to **virtual health**, such as through smart phone, video and email consultations are rapidly being implemented internationally and in New Zealand. Such approaches are underway in Southern, although this tends to be at the margins of care delivery. As part of improving access to services, particularly for

our rural populations, we will encourage the development of virtual health approaches. For example, we will encourage the use of online video consultations for consumers to access timely advice, with such approaches expected to be a core specification for HCH development. We will also encourage the use of technology in 'front-door' flows at HCHs (e.g. smart kiosks), and preparing HCHs and locality networks for the gradual introduction of technology-enabled home care approaches.

More use of **home care technologies** that enable consumers to safely care for themselves in their own homes, with support from their HCH and locality networks, will be encouraged. This will include consumers with chronic disease monitoring and managing their physiological markers, and health professionals remotely monitoring consumers with dementia at home so that they can intervene quickly to reduce the risk of adverse events.

In the longer-term we will also explore opportunities:

- ► to encourage the introduction of emerging technologies:
 - ▶ into care delivery (e.g. dispensing in community pharmacy)
 - ▶ to support consumers to live well at home (e.g. 'smart home' technology)
 - into the supply chain to provide quicker access to medicines and clinical supplies for consumers and the health workforce (e.g. drones; self-driving cars)
- to incorporate genomic information into consumer health care records to enable more personalised care approaches tailored to individual biology (e.g. medicine management based on a person's genomic profile)
- ► the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in health and business intelligence, operational management and clinical decision support.

Information and care technologies – *Prioritise and introduce new technologies*

Headline action	A stilling		Phases	
	Activity	1	2	3
	a. Through development and delivery of the Southern Health System Digital Health Strategy, leverage existing infrastructure, and where required design and implement new ways of working to develop the integrated set of technology solutions that provide a consumer-owned EHR			
	b. Establish an R&D project in partnership with University of Otago and other international partners to determine appropriate health technology enablement opportunities aligned with HCH, integrated care and home-based care models			
Headline action 7.1 – Prioritise and roll-out new technologies in primary and community care in-line with the Southern Digital Health Strategy and implementation of HCH and locality networks	c. As part of locality networks, develop secondary outreach services delivered through a structured telehealth outreach model via fixed to mobile end-points established on the DHB network. e.g. Vidyo			
	d. Develop consumer access to health care through Consumer Portal Telehealth Services, with fluid access to Online Doctor and Virtual After-Hours Services, accessible via an integrated Southern health system online communications framework			
	e. Develop remote monitoring capability of inpatient beds and step down facilities in rural and regional areas. This should utilise proactive data analytics and bi-directional video conferencing to alleviate occupancy pressures on Dunedin and Invercargill hospitals			
	f. Implement remote telehealth support for paramedic and emergency clinicians to improve remote triage of patients in their communities			
	g. Explore opportunities to develop Healthpod-style kiosks for routine self-service checks, leveraging existing connected health services or new initiatives through the Southern Technology Strategy			
	h. Begin to explore the potential of emerging technologies and opportunities to leverage artificial intelligence			

Funding and contracting

Implementation of the care models and supporting infrastructure envisaged by the Strategy will require changes in funding and contracting approaches. Existing funding and contracting models lead to duplication of effort and resources, are too output-focused, and restrict collaboration between providers and innovation in care models. Actions to promote new funding and contracting approaches will include:

- Supporting the development of HCHs for example, through enhanced capitation, transitional resources, and performance incentives
- Addressing urgent care needs and avoiding hospital demand through design and roll-out of a tailored Primary Options for Acute Care model, including as appropriate mechanisms to address consumer cost barriers (in-line with national policy developments)
- ▶ Introducing a funding model that supports extension of scopes of practice
- Designing a funding and contracting approach for rural hospitals that reflects and incentivises the desired scale and mix of services, integration with primary and community services, and effective linkages with base hospital acute and visiting specialist services
- Improving service coordination and reducing duplication for example, through locality network fund-holding; and/or packages of care approaches with a lead provider(s) for defined populations and/or consolidation of services under a single provider arrangement, supported by the care coordination service
- Increasing accountability for improving outcomes such as through resultsfocused funding and contracting arrangements
- Exploring opportunities to use multi-year funding and contracting arrangements. These arrangements are intended to provide a level of financial security to enable provider investment in innovation, broadening the scope and/or scale of services offered, and fostering integrated care approaches

 Exploring opportunities to pool funding across health and social care at a district-level, operationalised at a locality network level, to support holistic care for more vulnerable populations.

Any adjustments to funding and contracting settings will be married to transparent performance evaluation delivered through the proposed shared health and business intelligence function, and operationalised through HCH and locality network development. They will also consider the cost to consumers of accessing services, and will make consumer service costs more consistent across the district (particularly for after-hours services).

Funding and contracting – *Develop HCH funding approach*

Headline action	0 osti itu i		Phases	
	Activity	1	2	3
	a. Discuss with other implementers of HCH models of care (e.g. Health Care Home Collaborative) to understand transitional funding arrangements and how they have been linked to performance expectations			
Headline action 8.1 – Develop a HCH funding approach tied to model of care and performance specification	 b. Design and implement the funding arrangements for Tranche 1 HCHs, with this expected to include: Adoption of the Health Care Home Collaborative's national dataset measures Locally determined performance measures Funding arrangements explicitly tied to model of care development milestones Co-sharing of HCH model of care design costs through financial recognition of clinical participation in the process Collaboration values between Southern DHB, WellSouth PHN and HCHs c. Review the funding arrangements for Tranche 1 HCHs and confirm funding approach for Tranche 2 			

Funding and contracting – Roll out Primary Options for Acute Care programme

Headline action	Activity	Phases				
		1	2	3		
Headline action 8.2 – Roll-out Primary Options for Acute Care programme	 a. Confirm the design of the Primary Options for Acute Care (POAC) model, at the following three levels: Level 3: Most acute patients - the patient requires access to enhanced community supports such as the rapid response and enablement service, community allied health, a medical assessment and planning unit (MAPU), or an Accident and Medical Centre Level 2: Moderately acute patients - the patient requires extra support coordinated by general practice. This will include additional support from an allied health team (whether based in primary or secondary care, likely locality-based) that would provide capacity, particularly to smaller practices Level 1: Least acute patients - the patient requires a one-off service or activity such as IV antibiotics, diagnostic test, or direct access to specialist advice 					
	b. Confirm and implement priority services for level 1 POAC services					
	c. Working with locality networks, design and commence implementation of level 2 and 3 POAC services					
	d. Supported by the health and business intelligence function, evaluate and adjust POAC initiatives depending on their cost-effectiveness and integration with related services e.g. rapid response and enablement service and urgent and emergency care					

Funding and contracting – Introduce a funding model to support the designated pathway for extended scopes of practice

Headline action	Activity		Phases	
	Activity	1	2	3
Headline action 8.3 – Introduce a funding model to support the designated pathway for the extension of scopes of practice (e.g. GPSI / PNSI / NPSI)	a. Develop an appropriate funding model for GPSI / PNSI / NPSI roles matched to current and / or future demand			
	 Follow an expression of interest (EoI) process to identify opportunities for role development and select appropriate people within and outside of the existing workforce to develop into these roles. For existing members of the workforce, the potential to train where they live and work must be considered, either extramurally or through training by visiting specialists in their chosen area(s) of expertise 			
	c. Supported by the health and business intelligence function, evaluate and improve the cost- effectiveness, and approach to development for / funding of these roles			

Funding and contracting – *Introduce a results-based funding approach*

Headline action	Activity		Phases	
	Αυτινιζά	1	2	3
Headline action 8.4 – Institute a results-based approach to funding and contracting to support alignment of	 a. Determine a performance framework for locality networks which: Shares accountability for whole of system outcomes Enhances and incentivises integrated network decision-making Stipulates responsibilities for locality network clinical oversight and quality improvement Takes a lifecourse approach to better aligning service delivery with desired population health outcomes Enables improvement in capacity and capability 			
	b. Apply the locality network performance framework with initial localities to inform model of care design			
locality network delivery with district-wide and local priorities	c. Identify and address funding and contracting barriers to locality network collaboration and duplication of service delivery			
	d. Determine locality network-wide KPIs to be incorporated into all contracts held by network providers to support integrated ways of working			
	e. Formulate a funding model to support the locality network performance framework, with appropriate consideration of factors that influence delivery costs			
	f. Explore opportunities for risk / gain sharing approaches at a locality network or provider level			

Action area 3: Supporting adoption

Supporting adoption

Proof of concept

HCH demonstration sites and localities will have a proof of concept (POC) role. This will involve testing of HCH and locality network models to ensure they are feasible for wider application, and fine-tuning the models based on this experience. POC can be thought of as trialling a prototype of a new model in the field to establish operational viability, identify and resolve technical issues, and suggest overall direction. POC involves extensive review to inform fine-tuning of the prototype, as well as providing feedback for decision-making processes.

Design and implementation at the demonstration sites or localities will involve putting in place site-specific supporting infrastructure, so that they can deliver the intended model of care. It will also involve the application of district-wide supporting infrastructure such as early stage whole-system health and business intelligence. As implementation progresses, care models and infrastructure will continue to evolve both through a planned development path, and in response to learnings from review and feedback.

Learnings from the demonstration sites will play a central role in shaping delivery of primary and community care in Southern, and in contributing to realisation of the Strategy's vision. Minimum requirements for demonstration site selection are likely to include:

- ► Local clinical champion(s) committed to innovative service redesign
- Commitment to the key directions of the Primary and Community Care Strategy
- Economy of scale to undertake early testing and development of new care models and infrastructure
- ► Cooperative working relationships with DHB services
- ► Cooperative working relationships with other locality providers
- Evidence of participation in primary and community care innovation, or intention to participate in the near future

- Support for the shift of service activity from secondary to primary care (especially for long-term condition management)
- ▶ Willingness to share data
- Standard and quality of information systems and facilities, and willingness to invest where required.

The number and sequencing of demonstration sites will be determined during the first 12 months of Action Plan implementation, which will include an expression of interest (EoI) process for HCHs, and an engagement process to define and prioritise locality network development. As part of creating locality networks, a small set of service-based POCs (integrated respiratory services and rapid response / enablement teams) will be designed and implemented for trialing before potentially being scaled district-wide.

Consumer engagement and communications

Communications and engagement with consumers and communities will be critical to the design and application of new care models and supporting infrastructure. A 'one team' approach will be taken to communications and engagement with consumers, as 'Southern Health' rather than individual organisations. In the first instance, model of care co-design approaches with consumers and communities will provide an avenue through which to do this, and the values-based charter will provide the framework for consistent, ongoing engagement.

Consumer engagement with the district-wide Alliance will be encouraged through Southern DHB's Community Health Council; and through consumer participation in the DHB's Clinical Council.

Consideration will be given to how this consumer participation can be extended to the locality level, where close engagement with local government in particular will enable community leaders to identify, advocate and support local health priorities and initiatives. Social care providers will also be engaged at the locality level.

Supporting adoption cont'd

Workforce engagement and communications

The health care workforce will be actively engaged in the design and application of care models and supporting infrastructure. The focus of engagement will be on breaking down the traditional silos that characterise relationships between primary, community, and secondary care. This will be achieved through:

- Co-design methodologies, which bring health care representatives together to challenge traditional ways of working, and identify practical approaches to delivering on the Strategy. Co-design will be facilitated through HCH and locality networks design and execution
- Development of a clear strategic direction for secondary and tertiary care, aligned with the Primary and Community Care Strategy over the same time horizon, and work undertaken as part of the Dunedin Hospital rebuild process
- Specially convened Alliance service development activities (e.g. access to diagnostics) which involve primary and hospital clinicians in design and implementation, with a focus on building trust-based relationships
- Workforce development, including lifting capabilities in clinical leadership and in team-based care.

Over time the social care sector will be progressively involved in co-design approaches.

Iwi engagement

Southern DHB and Ngāi Tahu have a history of working together, largely through their engagement with the Iwi Governance Committee. This working relationship will be enhanced through active engagement with the Committee during detailed design and implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan. In the context of Strategy and Action Plan implementation, this will mean:

 Continuing to build the network of kaupapa Māori providers across Southern through specific development work, and integration with other health and social services

- ► Strengthening the Māori consumer voice in model of care design
- ► Lifting the performance of mainstream service providers so that they are effectively meeting the specific needs of Māori
- Identifying and actioning opportunities for iwi to participate in innovative models of health and social care.

Co-design approach

A structured approach to co-design will be progressed for HCH and locality network development (including POC initiatives). The approach will involve six steps:

- Engage proactively establishing and maintaining meaningful relationships with consumers, whānau, the health workforce (e.g. clinicians, non-clinical staff), iwi, tertiary providers, and wider social sector agencies ('key stakeholders') to understand health and service needs, and identify opportunities to lift performance
- Explore exploring the experiences of key stakeholders (particularly consumers and whānau) to identify model of care design and performance improvement activities
- 3. Develop working with key stakeholders to turn ideas into improvements and better consumer and whānau experiences
- 4. Decide using a transparent engagement process, prioritise model of care design and performance improvement activities in line with the principled approach set out on page 9.
- Plan work with key stakeholders to plan model of care design and performance improvement activities, including implementation steps and delivery
- 6. Change work with key stakeholders to turn model of care design and performance improvement activities into action, supported by resourced change management capability.

Supporting adoption cont'd

Provider capability development

To encourage adoption of new care models and supporting infrastructure, some provision of transitional investment will be made available to early adopter HCHs and locality network participants. Investment will be linked to a transition plan that sets out agreed model of care specifications, timeframes, provider coinvestment of time and effort, and potentially capital. Over time the transitional investments will be translated into incentives for outcomes following certification of a practice as an HCH.

Technical support will be provided to early adopter HCHs and locality networks. This support will include:

- Health intelligence: locality needs assessment and service profiles, and practice benchmarking
- Evaluation expertise: support to assess the maturity of existing systems and processes, and priorities for transformation
- Business intelligence: financial modelling to help providers understand how to optimise care and business models
- Redesign expertise: dedicated professional support to help facilitate change in care models
- ► Data management: assistance with improving data capture and accuracy.

Transitional investment and technical support will help to guide the implementation of tailored solutions to ensure HCH and locality network sustainability and performance.

Planning & funding

Southern DHB, the main funder of health services for the Southern population, is unlikely to receive a significant increase in its available funding, given the demographic characteristics of the district. Moreover, the DHB is still working towards a break-even financial position after a long period of spending more than it receives in revenue. Overall, this means that the DHB, and the health system more broadly, needs to do better within existing resources, while prioritising any additional discretionary funding to areas of greatest return in improving health outcomes and sustainability. Delivering on the Primary and Community Care Strategy and Action Plan will require:

- Doing better with the funding already available in the system through new care models and more integrated ways of working
- ▶ Prioritising investment of any discretionary funding to initiatives that will:
 - Modify demand for acute hospital services, which will unlock additional resources over time
 - Cost-effectively substitute demand for hospital care, reducing the need for additional hospital capacity
 - Improve longer-term health outcomes through targeted investments that reduce the burden of disease.

As a consequence, there will be an early review of funding levels and contracting within the system to test their alignment with the Primary and Community Care Strategy and Action Plan. This will inform the proposed investment strategy and joint approach between Southern DHB and WellSouth PHN (through the Alliance) for delivering on the Strategy & Action Plan.

As Southern DHB receives its funding and planning package each year from the Ministry of Health, the size of available discretionary funding will become clearer. It is expected that delivering on the goals and actions of the Strategy and Action Plan will be prioritised for preferential investment within the DHB's overall available funding.

The extent of available funding will determine how quickly actions in the Action Plan can be advanced. If more funding becomes available, then some actions will be brought forward. In other instances, it may mean some are deferred. These decisions will be progressed through the Alliance, and codified through the DHB's annual planning cycle. This will ensure that they are factored into each year's Annual Plan and budget, and associated monitoring and reporting.



