



Proactive Release

The following document has been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), on behalf of the Minister for COVID-19 Response, Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall:

Testing Innovation Weekly Updates

The following documents have been included in this release:

Title of paper: Testing Innovation Weekly Update – 1 July 2022

Title of paper: Testing Innovation Weekly Update – 8 July 2022

Title of paper: Testing Innovation Weekly Update – 23 July 2022

Title of paper: Testing Innovation Weekly Update – 29 July 2022

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant section of the Act that would apply has been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to redaction code:

- 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.



Aide-Mémoire

Testing Innovation Weekly Update

To:	Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall Minister for COVID-19 Response		
From:	Alice Hume, Head of Strategy & Policy	Date:	23/07/2022
Briefing Number:	DPMC-2021/22-2368	Security Level:	[IN CONFIDENCE]

Purpose

1. This aide memoire provides a brief update on the testing innovation work programme.

Regulatory workstream

Rapid review

2. The rapid review of the COVID-19 Point-of-Care Testing (POCT) regulatory framework is expected to be undertaken in July-August 2022. Advice on any recommendations arising from the rapid review is expected late-August.
3. The governance arrangements for the rapid review will be finalised shortly. Draft Terms of Reference have been put together for review and approval by the governance group.
4. Engagement with a provider to undertake the review is underway.

Wider regulatory review

5. A project plan for the broader regulatory review of COVID-19 testing has been developed, and a desktop scan of relevant documents on testing innovation is underway.
6. The Ministry of Health (MoH) Policy and Therapeutic Products Bill teams are working together to understand lessons learned from COVID-19 and to ensure work on both the review and the development of the bill is aligned and informing each other.
7. Testing Innovation workshops (as part of the innovation and futures workstream) in the next fortnight will also inform the review.

Innovation and futures workstream

8. Officials from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment, and the MoH are continuing to meet with PwC ahead the workshops scheduled for 29 June and 8 July. PwC has sent placeholder invitations to attendees. Your office can be provided with a list of invitees on request.