



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Additional Item: Breast Screening Age Extension

Portfolio **Health**

On 12 February 2024, the Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** that taking the first steps to extend free breast cancer screening to those aged up to 74 is part of the Government's 100-day plan;
- 2 **noted** that the Minister of Health received advice from Health New Zealand on expanding eligibility to the Breast Screening Aotearoa (BSA) programme in November 2023;
- 3 **noted** that the Minister of Health intends to make a public announcement in the week of 12 February on the commitment to extend free breast cancer screening to those aged up to 74 as part of the Government's 100-day plan;
- 4 **noted** that funding for this initiative is being sought in Budget 2024 and is therefore subject to the ongoing Budget process;
- 5 **noted** that implementation will involve a staged expansion of operational capacity, resulting in an increase in the number of free mammograms a woman can have from around 13 to 16 screens over their lifetime.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet