



Neurological Alliance – Purpose Summary – 21 February 2023

Background

The Neurological Alliance has been reviewing its purpose over the last few months. Attendees at the Alliance meeting on 20th Feb 2023 reached a consensus on the purpose, and pathway forward, summarised in this paper.

Purpose

The purpose of the Neurological Alliance is to:

1. **Advocate** for the best outcomes for those living with neurological conditions in NZ through Government and Health Service Providers
2. Provide an external **Advisory** role to the Government and Health Service Providers; supporting their development of strategic priorities, health policies, white papers, research programmes and funding models to address the needs of those living with neurological conditions

The goal is to ensure the:

- 1 in 3 Kiwi's impacted by neurological conditions in their lifetime
- 1 in 5 Kiwi's who will pass away as a result of a neurological condition

get the best outcomes from health service provision and scientific research in NZ.

Commitment of Neurological Alliance Members

To achieve this purpose, the Neurological Alliance will invest in advocacy capability 8 hours per week to develop positioning papers and collateral in conjunction with the Alliance organisations. These papers will be used to support the Alliance's purposes for advocacy and as an advisory body to Government and Health Service Providers.

It is proposed to resource this work through the Advocacy Lead employed by the Stroke Foundation of New Zealand. To support this the members of the Alliance will commit to funding the work, with an initial contribution between \$500 and \$1,000 (or more if they are able) to cover the costs of the resource. The Stroke Foundation has kindly offered to fund the overheads for the role (desk, power, laptop etc).

Work will also begin, to seek grant funding to support the costs of this work on behalf of the Alliance, to ease the burden on all members.

Moving Forward

To achieve this purpose the Alliance will focus initially on developing a positioning paper and collateral for all the New Zealand political parties. This will be used to engage the parties as they develop their manifestos leading up to the election later in 2023. A variation of the positioning paper and collateral will be used as the Alliance engages with the new Health Service Providers, to shape their understanding of the needs of our communities when shaping up the transformed health framework and develop future strategies.

Next steps

Next steps are for each member of the Alliance to confirm their support for this work and the financial commitment back to the Alliance Chair & Secretariat. It is recognised that some organisations may be able to approve directly at an Operational level, whilst others will need to confirm Board approval. The goal is to have the commitment and funding by 17th March 2023, so that work can get underway.