

Hon Dr Shane Reti

Minister of Health
Minister for Pacific Peoples



29 MAY 2024

Chris Higgins
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Ref. SRC-2150

Tēnā koe Chris

Thank you for your letter of 6 May 2024 regarding the Rare Disorders Strategy (the strategy). I appreciate you taking the time to write and for hosting me at the launch of the White Paper based on the Voice of Rare Disorders Survey 2023 at Parliament in February 2024.

As you may have been informed, the strategy will be a Ministry of Health - Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) document, signed by the Director-General of Health. As steward of the health system and the Government's principal health advisor, the Ministry is well placed to lead work across the system and with other agencies to achieve better outcomes for people and whānau living with a rare disorder.

I have shared your feedback and expectations for the strategy with the Ministry. The publication process has started and should be completed by the end of July 2024. I trust that the Ministry will be in touch with you as it finalises publication and launches the strategy. I would also like to acknowledge your team for working proactively with Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora on the next steps and implementation of the strategy.

Thank you again for writing and for your continued advocacy for people and whānau living with a rare disorder in New Zealand. I hope this information is useful and wish you well.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane Reti', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Hon Dr Shane Reti
Minister of Health