THE RESPECTIVE POSITIONS

Union Claim	DHB Position
Coverage – the Laboratory workers want to include all 16 DHBs, private laboratories and the NZ Blood service in the same MECA.	Coverage – The private labs have made it clear that they do not wish to be a party to a multi employer collective agreement that includes both public and private employers.
	The 16 DHBs and the Blood Service have also confirmed they do not wish to be in an agreement with private employers.
	The union wants to include 3 DHBs that no longer have in house lab services – we disagree given those DHBs have already contracted out their services and have no laboratory workers.
The union also wants private providers taking over DHB work to automatically become a party to the MECA. It claims this is necessary to protect the employment conditions of their members.	This protection is already in the Code of Good Faith for the Public Health Sector. It requires DHBs contracting out services to transfer employees to a new employer in the same position and on the same terms and conditions.
• 1% from 1 April 06 • 3% from 1 July 06 • 3% from 1 July 07 • 1.5% from 1 July 08 • 1% from 1 January 09 • A term to 31 March 09 In addition, the union still has claims for; specified minimum steps for section heads and team leader positions a minimum 9-hour break both sides of a call out, superannuation, bargaining fees and continuing education costs – none of these have been withdrawn and the union's position is largely unchanged from when bargaining began. Total cost of claim – over 20%	 Salary 3% from 1 July 06, 3% from 1 July 07 and 2.1% from 1 July 08 A term to 30 June 09 Our offer is made subject to flexibility of hours as set out below. In addition, laboratory workers will also receive automatic annual increments and career progression that average around 2% a year – it would raise the average increase for lab workers to about 5% a year. The union's suggestion of moving to the same penal rates as other health workers would save DHBs about 2% which they would add to base pay – that would raise the offer to 10.5%.
Hours of Work - the union rejects the DHB's claim on this subject.	Hours of Work - we have asked for the ability to change hours of work following consultation with affected laboratory workers. The present agreement requires each employee's agreement to a change.
	Our pay offer is on the basis of achieving this flexibility.