

Summary table of progress in implementing the 21 recommendations

Number	Recommendation	Status April 2014				Comments
		Superseded	Under way	Substantially completed	Completed/ Business As Usual (BAU)	
1	Screening test protocol review					An independent <i>Review of Newborn Hearing Screening Regimes and Associated Devices</i> was completed in March 2014. The review included consideration of different hearing screening tests. Recommendations from the review are now under consideration.
2	Data monitoring requirements					Revised <i>Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Early Intervention Programme (UNHSEIP) National Policy and Quality Standards</i> containing updated data monitoring requirements were disseminated to District Health Boards (DHBs) in July 2013. The National Screening Unit (NSU) has provided DHB UNHSEIP coordinators with comprehensive protocols for monitoring individual screener data. Reports are provided by DHBs to the NSU on a quarterly basis. Screener data is also randomly selected for in-depth analysis. Now BAU.
3	Coordinators skilled in data monitoring					NSU has developed a detailed protocol to guide coordinators in monitoring of screeners (refer rec 2). Six screener advisors have been contracted to assist and upskill DHB coordinators in data monitoring. Following regional workshops this will be completed by December 2014, then will become BAU.
4	Screener awareness of data monitoring					Screener awareness of data monitoring is regularly reinforced. This includes information in the revised Screener Manual, an introductory resource developed for screeners and the Annual Competency Exercise for screeners, of which individual data review is a major component.
5	Assessment of residual risk					An assessment of residual risk has been undertaken and included in the UNHSEIP Service Coordination Manual.
6	Screener recruitment guide					A guide to recruitment of newborn hearing screeners has been completed and provided to DHBs.
7	Training opportunities and reducing stress for screeners					New service delivery plans indicate active management of screener workload. The continuing education of screeners is strongly encouraged. Will be completed by December 2014 then BAU.
8	Remuneration of screeners					The NZQA Review of Qualifications due to be completed in December 2014 is expected to improve career diversification and opportunities for newborn hearing screeners. Will be completed by December 2014 then BAU.
9	Competency framework implementation					An Annual Competency Exercise for all newborn hearing screeners has been implemented. This includes online tools and an observational assessment.

10	Education in ethics and theory of screening					Material on screener ethics, including the Standard of Integrity and Conduct for State Services, and screening theory have been included in the new UNHSEIP Service Coordination Manual and the Screener Manual.
11	Operational policies and provision of results					Will be implemented alongside consideration of recommendations arising from the independent <i>Review of Newborn Hearing Screening Regimes and Associated Devices</i>
12	Updating of screener scripts and delivery					Will be implemented alongside consideration of recommendations arising from the independent <i>Review of Newborn Hearing Screening Regimes and Associated Devices</i>
13	Adequate resourcing of coordinator role					DHBs have been provided with expectations of coordination activities for the UNHSEIP. This has prompted DHBs to review coordination activities and whether they can be shared across people and services. A survey of coordinators will help to determine ways in which coordination of the programme in DHBs can be further developed and supported. Will be completed by December 2014 then BAU.
14	Coordinator manual and training					A UNHSEIP Service Coordination Manual has been developed and disseminated to DHBs. The manual covers each of the main areas required for programme coordination in DHBs: strategic leadership, recruiting and managing screeners, process and equipment management, quality and monitoring, and reporting.
15	Information dissemination to coordinators					Monthly NSU and coordinator teleconferences are well-attended. Coordinators report they are well informed by the Ministry of Health.
16	Engagement of audiologists with UNHSEIP					The revised <i>UNHSEIP National Policy and Quality Standards</i> and the Service Coordination Manual emphasise the role of audiology departments in supporting the screening service. Following a survey this will be completed by December 2014, then BAU.
17	Defined lines of management and accountability					A review of Service Delivery Plans indicates that DHBs have clearly defined lines of governance, management and accountability for UNHSEIP. This is now BAU.
18	DHB links with relevant teams					A review of Service Delivery Plans indicates DHBs have mechanisms for fostering linkages between relevant teams (e.g. maternity, audiology, Māori health services and quality teams). These plans are regularly updated and are reviewed on audits of DHB UNHSEIP services. This is now BAU.
19	Multidisciplinary governance framework					A review of Service Delivery Plans indicates that there are multi-disciplinary clinical governance frameworks for UNHSEIP and regular meetings across all DHBs. This is now BAU.
20	Centralised database					Recommendation has commenced and will be completed by July 2015
21	Monitoring of plan with Advisory Group					Recommendation is ongoing until all recommendations are completed or incorporated into BAU.