NSNZ NOTICE – FUNDING CUTS SURVEY FINDINGS

Key results from our survey on the effects of government-imposed budget controls and cuts on the health sector.

A significant majority of respondents (77%) reported an adverse impact on the health sector from recent funding cuts and/or budget controls, with the below effects:

- 70% reported higher stress
- 64% less access to services and/or reduced services
- 63% understaffing
- 57% treatment delays
- 53% lower quality service.

In addition, 22% of respondents wrote in examples of further effects, including:

- increased workload / pressure / unpaid overtime
- lower staff morale and higher dissatisfaction, fatigue, and burnout
- redundancy or job offer retraction
- less employment opportunity and mobility
- fewer placements for new graduates
- potential or actual loss of new graduates to overseas
- more reliance on casual staff
- higher sickness rates among staff
- pay rate stagnation
- reduced resources / supplies
- increase in outsourcing
- less training / professional development
- lack of IT / admin support
- over dependence on primary care for complex cases and/or higher rates of public referrals being declined
- less support for Māori and Pasifika clients
- increased cost of services / equipment for clients
- loss of trust in the healthcare system.

Respondents spanned a range of sectors such as Te Whatu Ora (39%), primary care (34%), private surgical facility (9%), urgent care (6%) and aged care (5%).

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