

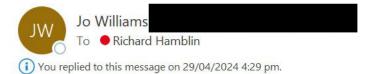
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Mon 29/04/2024 3:40 pm

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# Forming advice on gaming of health targets and mitigations



## Kia ora Richard

We are working on a series of briefings for the Minister in anticipation of the health targets programme commencing on 1 July 2024. We have split up the work of drafting the next briefings with Health NZ. They will be drafting advice on supporting and balancing measures, while we are doing a piece for the Minister on gaming.

I would be keen to get your views on gaming and the risk of adverse consequences for the 5 health targets, including what should be monitored and how risks might be mitigated. I know you have done a lot of work in this area! As a starter, I am thinking about gaming as: 'activity aimed at hitting the target which cannot be justified in terms of improving workflow or patient outcomes'. Do you have any thoughts about that as a working definition?

Below is my starting outline for the briefing. Any thoughts you might have on any of these topics, I would be grateful to receive!

### Gaming

- Understanding of behavioural incentives for gaming (likely ones in our health system)
- · Likely areas for gaming, covering each of the targets
- General mitigations (eg feedback loops, disaggregated reporting), and target specific as appropriate
- What we expect from Health NZ (internal processes to check for gaming & responses, business rules)

#### Assurance

- Suggestions for where and when there should be an independent view (eg end of year audit, investigation of patterns of performance, role for HQSC)
- Quality of data and reporting process

## Monitoring for adverse consequences

- The role of balancing and supporting measures and system monitoring (& what the Ministry will be looking for)
- Process HNZ is undertaking to establish these measures

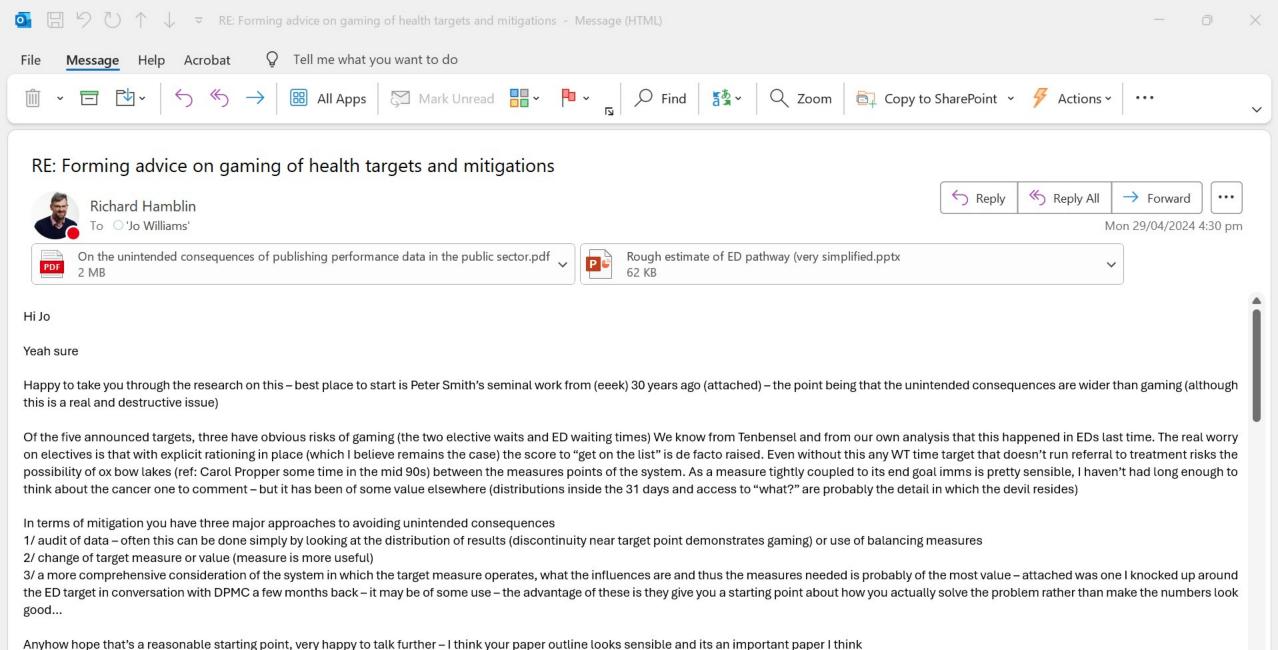
If you have any research you think would be helpful for me to look at, or otherwise any starting ideas, please do let me know. I have also made contact with Health NZ and Te Aho o Te Kahu. I will send an invite out this week to arrange at least one meeting to discuss this together.

Please feel free to call me to discuss if that would be easier.

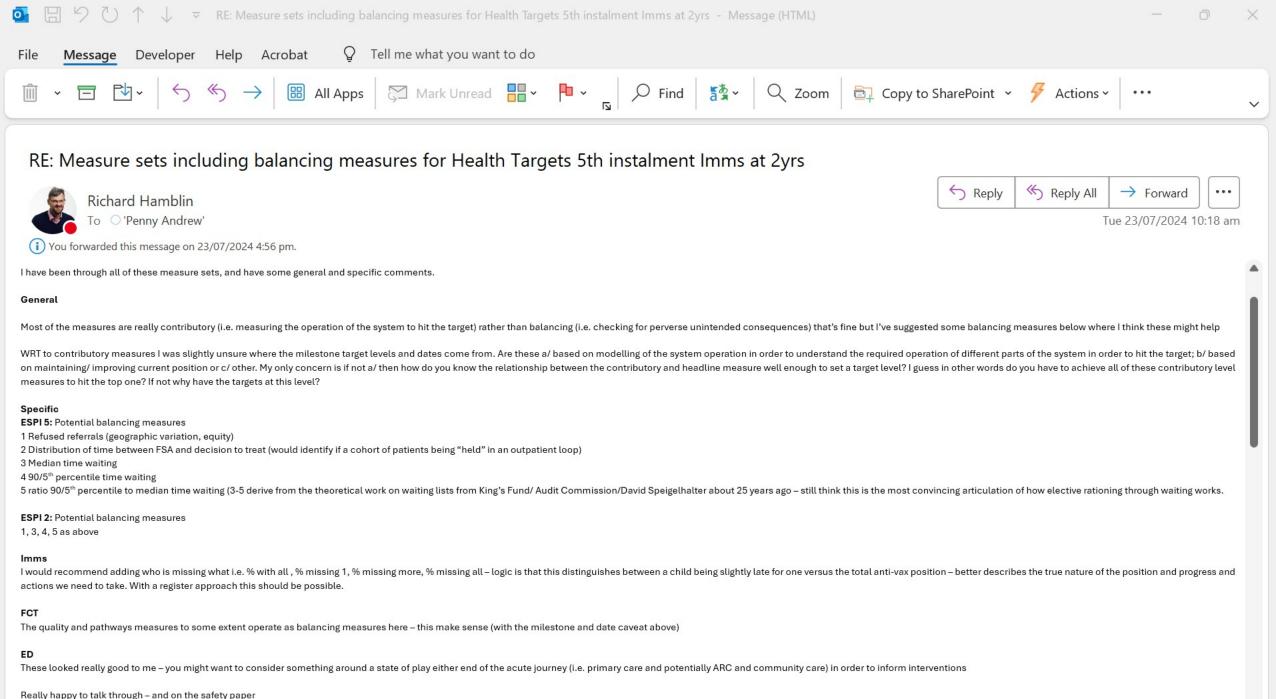
Ngā mihi nui

#### Jo Williams

Principal Advisor



Best



I will share these comments with Duncan Bliss