



Appendix two – Functions of a Local Health District

The functions of a LHD are as follows:

- a) generally to promote, protect and maintain the health of the residents of its area
- b) to conduct and manage public hospitals, health institutions, health services and health support services under its control
- c) to give residents outside its area access to such of the health services it provides as may be necessary or desirable
- d) to achieve and maintain adequate standards of patient care and services
- e) to ensure the efficient and economic operation of its health services and health support services and use of its resources
- f) generally to consult and co-operate (as it considers appropriate) with any one or more of the following:
 - i) the Health Care Complaints Commission constituted under the *Health Care Complaints Act 1993*
 - ii) health professionals practising in its area
 - iii) other individuals and organisations (including voluntary agencies, private agencies and public or local authorities) concerned with the promotion, protection and maintenance of health
- f1) to co-operate with other LHDs and the Health Secretary in relation to the provision of services involving more than one public health organisation or on a state-wide basis
- g) to investigate and assess health needs in its area
- h) to plan future development of health services in its area, and, towards that end:
 - i) to consult and plan jointly with the Ministry of Health and such other organisations as it considers appropriate
 - ii) to support, encourage and facilitate the organisation of community involvement in the planning of those services
 - iii) to develop strategies to facilitate community involvement in the planning of those services and to report on the implementation of those strategies in annual reports and to the Minister
- i) to establish and maintain an appropriate balance in the provision and use of resources for health protection, health promotion, health education and treatment services
- j) to provide services to persons with whom it has contracted or entered into an agreement under section 37 (2)
- k) to administer funding for recognised establishments and recognised services of affiliated health organisations where that function has been delegated to it by the Minister under section 129
- l) to provide training and education relevant to the provision of health services
- m) to undertake research and development relevant to the provision of health services
- n) to make available to the public information and advice concerning public health and the health services available within its area
- o) to carry out such other functions as are conferred or imposed on it by or under this or any other Act or as may be prescribed by the regulations.