

New Zealand Influenza Pandemic Plan

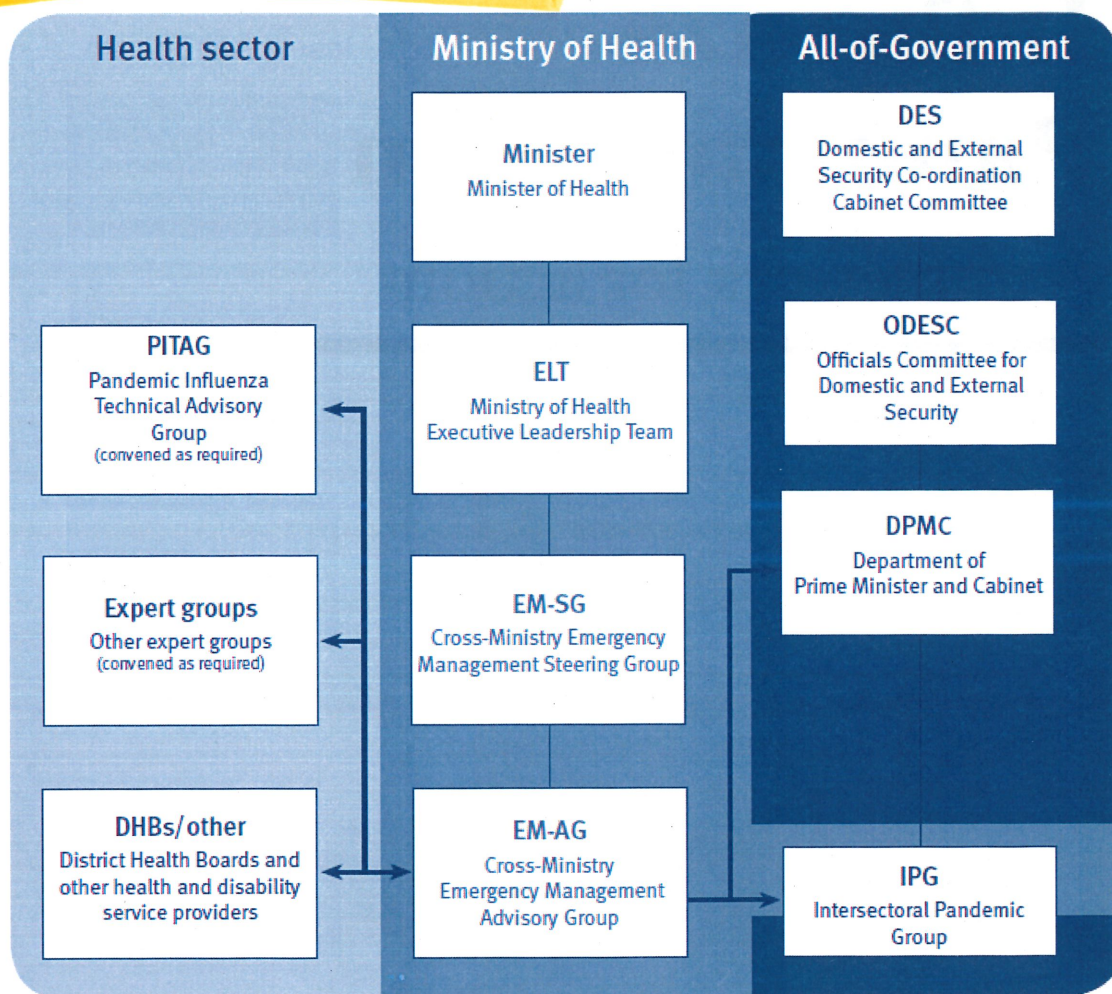
A framework for action

Ministry of Health pandemic planning

The Ministry of Health began a period of ‘accelerated’ pandemic planning in 2005 because of increased national and international concern about the risk posed by pandemic influenza. This concern has been reinforced by experience with SARS, the threat of influenza A (H5N1) and influenza A (H1N1) 2009.

Within the Ministry of Health, coordination and collaboration is achieved through a cross-ministry advisory group which is convened as required, as shown in Figure 2. A cross-ministry steering group also provides leadership and strategic oversight of the emergency management work programme as a whole, which includes pandemic planning. The steering group reports to the Ministry of Health’s Executive Leadership Team and the Minister of Health through normal Ministry channels.

Figure 2: New Zealand pandemic planning process



The Pandemic Influenza Technical Advisory Group was established to provide expert clinical, virological, epidemiological, infection control and ethical advice to inform Ministry of Health pandemic response planning. This group informs Ministry policy on communications, key messages, public health interventions and a range of associated issues, and is convened as required to provide technical advice to the Director of Public Health.