

## Consensus Statement on Advocacy and Public Health Contracts

We (the undersigned) agree that:

advocacy is an essential, internationally recognised component of public health practice and is a legitimate activity for public health funding.

The consequences of removing the word 'advocacy' from public health contracts will mean:

- public health practitioners will be prevented from undertaking an essential element of their professional practice
- the achievement of key outcomes identified in the New Zealand Health Strategy is seriously compromised
- people will be poorly served by public health services because practitioners will not have the ability to advocate on issues and trends affecting their health.

Therefore we strongly recommend that the Ministry of Health recognise and fund advocacy to be undertaken by public health NGO, DHB and other agencies, with and on behalf of communities, and retain the word advocacy in public health contracts.

*(sign name and organization)*

Printed Name	Organisation	Address	Signature

Please return by post or fax to Health Promotion Forum, PO Box 99064, Newmarket, Auckland  
Fax 09 520 4152