

## Primary Birthing Unit update, well, sort of!

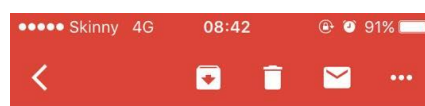
On August 21<sup>st</sup> we posted the following on our Facebook page:

*MSCC attended the WDHB Board meeting on the 16th of August 2017 having previously been advised that the Primary Birthing Unit business plan was due to be presented. MSCC had let other interested parties know, so on the day, a dozen women and two children were waiting with bated breath to hear the plan presented. After exceptionally short board meeting, the public session closed and we shuffled out, disappointed. No plan. No explanation. Nothing.*

*Dr Dale Bramley, CEO of WDHB came out to tell us that the business plan would be addressed in the confidential part of the meeting. He was soon followed by Dr Lester Levy, Chair of the WDHB, ADHB and CMDHB, who told us rather ominously " We know what you like, or what you would like." This comment left us all in doubt that we would hear a positive response to the business plan. Currently, I can only confirm that the business plan was presented in the confidential meeting and that the outcome was still confidential. A memo will be sent out to MSCC shortly. MSCC will keep you posted.*

Imagine our surprise then, when a comment was shared by a follower on our Facebook page, that she (and other access holding LMCs) had received an email from a senior maternity staff member, announcing that development of a primary birth unit on the Waitakere Hospital site had been given the go-ahead! We immediately sent a letter of inquiry to Dr. Dale Bramley CEO WDHB, asking about the validity of this. Within two hours we received a reply! Dr Dale Bramley advised, there was no official word, the email in question should never been sent and that he would let us know the outcome when he could.

*This post originally appeared on MSCC's facebook page*



**From:** Emma Farmer (WDHB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 16 August 2017 2:45 p.m.  
**Subject:** Primary Birthing Unit

Just to let you all know that the Board today approved the development of a free-standing primary birthing unit on the Waitakere site. There is a whole heap of work still to do to get this over the line, but this has been a long time coming and we need to celebrate this milestone.

Happy Day

Emma