

## Health Sector Environmental Sustainability Award

### Background

The health system, and health practitioners working within it, have a responsibility to take a leading role in environmental sustainability and addressing climate change – one of the leading health and health equity threats of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Health promotion, public health, and health-care organisations need to be at the forefront of developing systems that protect the climate and environment, and that concurrently promote positive population health outcomes.

This award is for an organisation within the New Zealand public health sector that is showing leadership in integrating carbon reduction and environmental sustainability into policy and practice. The award is sponsored by OraTaiao: The NZ Climate and Health Council ([www.orataiao.org.nz](http://www.orataiao.org.nz)), and is to be awarded every two years, with the first award to be presented at the inaugural Population Health Congress in Auckland in October, 2014.

### Award Name: Leadership in Environmental Sustainability by a Health Sector Organisation

### Criteria for award:

The prize winning organisation will be demonstrating most or all of:

- Strong management and leadership support for carbon reduction and environmental sustainability.
- Effective engagement with a range of groups such as staff, service-users, and communities.
- Robust analysis, measurement and reporting to understand the carbon footprint and sustainability issues for the organisation, and to assess the impact of initiatives.
- A range of initiatives in place for carbon reduction/environmental sustainability across the organisation, or plans in place to roll these out.
- Promotion of the population health benefits of health sector carbon reduction and sustainability.
- Recognition of the health implications of climate change in New Zealand, and planning for expected climate-health impacts.
- Sharing of knowledge and expertise across the New Zealand health sector.

### **Details of the Prize**

The award is about recognition and celebration of carbon reduction and sustainability efforts within the health sector. It will also serve to raise the profile of the importance of environmental sustainability and a stable climate as key determinants of population health.

The award will entail a small gift (non-monetary) and a certificate. It will be presented every two years, and initially sponsored by OraTaiao: The New Zealand Climate and Health Council ([www.orataiao.org.nz](http://www.orataiao.org.nz)). In 2014 the prize will be presented at the inaugural Population Health Congress in Auckland 6-8 October, 2014 – at the Congress dinner.

Photographs of the presentation/awardees will be taken - to be profiled on the OraTaiao: The New Zealand Climate and Health Council website, and potentially on other websites, and in bulletins and newsletters of the Congress host organisations (the New Zealand College of Public Health Medicine, the Public Health Association of New Zealand, the Health Promotion Forum of New Zealand). Details of the winning organisation will be announced to the public through a media release.