

# Home-grown web application crosses the strait

In December 2014 a web based application developed by Community and Public Health (CPH) was officially adopted by Regional Public Health in Wellington.

HealthScape has helped Community and Public Health deliver effective and coordinated public health services for more than ten years. HealthScape is similar to a patient management system such as HealthOne except it is focused on settings, not patients. It was developed in-house by Information Architect Chris Ambrose, who still oversees it.

For instance, Community and Public Health staff use HealthScape to record the interactions they have in settings such as schools, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and licensed premises. It allows CPH staff to see what other staff have had interactions with a particular organisation and what was discussed.

Healthscape is highly adaptable, although originally developed by CPH to meet public health needs within our region. Regional Public Health and CPH collaborated in a project to ensure the system was fully fit for use by Regional Public Health. Regional Public Health provides public health services to the three Wellington region DHBs, and their installation of the CPH system means that Healthscape is now supporting public health services for ten district health boards.

CPH General Manager Evon Currie says that HealthScape provides an amazing overview of what public health is doing.

“It’s no surprise that HealthScape is becoming more and more popular. By providing up-to-date and consistent data on what’s happening it helps avoid duplication and promotes transparency – staff know who else has visited an organisation and what was discussed,” says Evon.

“It runs off existing DHB IT infrastructure and software, supports a paperless environment, and was built entirely in-house. It represents amazing value for money,” says Evon.



Above: Peter Gush from Regional Public Health presents CPH General Manager Evon Currie with a certificate of appreciation.