

20073-24-033



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
HEAD OFFICE

MACARTHY TRUST BUILDING, LAMBTON QUAY, WELLINGTON,
NEW ZEALAND.

P.O. BOX 5013
TELEX NZ 3571
TELEPHONE:
727 627

16 September 1982

Ms Barbara Macfarlane
N Z Home Birth Assn
P O Box 7093
Wellesley Street
AUCKLAND 1

Dear Ms Macfarlane

Thank you for your letter assuring me that domiciliary midwives are not accepting load payments from their patients. I am pleased to accept your assurance on this point.

Your concern about the shortage of domiciliary midwives does, of course, probably relate to shortage of midwives in general and, as such, is an aspect to be dealt with by the medical manpower committee. Any major decision about overseas recruitment, advertising for midwives etc. are probably best dealt with once the report of the Maternity Services Committee has become available for general discussion.

I have received a number of letters concerning the level of benefits provided for domiciliary midwifery and have indicated in response my willingness to discuss this matter with your Association at some mutually acceptable time.

Yours sincerely

J S Phillips
Director
Division of Clinical Services