

20073-24-049

**Advisory Committee  
on Women's Affairs**



State Services Commission,  
Private Bag,  
Wellington,  
New Zealand.

Telephone 722-834  
Third Floor,  
National Provident Fund Bldg,  
1 The Terrace.

LIA/15/6

11 August 1982

Barbara McFarlane  
Secretary  
Auckland Branch  
NZ Home Birth Association  
PO Box 7093  
Wellesley Street  
AUCKLAND 1

Dear Ms McFarlane

In February you wrote to ACWA members setting out the position of home birth in New Zealand. Your letter was received at ACWA's March meeting, and members read it with interest as they have designated Health, along with Women's Economic Status, and Violence to Women, as priority areas.

However, (as you will know, if you saw the 'Herald' of June 22) ACWA has been largely forced to work reactively, and during recent months has been occupied with a series of meetings with Ministers over the likely effects on women of the current cost-cutting measures in the areas of education, health and social welfare. This has delayed the development of ACWA's own work programme, but Health has been given priority on the Agenda for this month's meeting. We would be grateful to receive the material you mentioned in your letter, re the Short Report, and the safety of home births, and will contact you again in due course.

Yours sincerely

Denise Keay  
Assistant Advisory Officer  
Advisory Committee on  
Women's Affairs