

7 August 2020

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Via Email: [REDACTED]

Response to a request for official information

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for official information as a partial transfer of Part One (of Two) from the Ministry of Health and received 23 July 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, where you seek the following information:

I'm keen to get a picture of how COVID-19 has impacted on the community oral health service for pre-school and primary school children.

- 1) Can you please let me know the current percentage of overdue cases – and how that compares to the past two years. What are the longest wait times?*

NMH response:

Prior to the COVID-19 lockdown, Community Oral Health Service overdue cases were 15% in February 2020, and peaked just after the lockdown at 22% in May 2020. The percentage of overdue cases is reducing with resumption of services as shown in Table One.

TABLE ONE:

	Overdue cases (%)
June 2020	19%
June 2019	23%
June 2018	22%

NOTE: The percentage of overdue cases is based on those waiting more than 12 months for high risk children, and 18 months for low risk children.

The longest wait time currently stands at March 2019 – utilising the measurement definition of the first month where there are more than 10 cases overdue at that month.

This response has been provided under the Official Information Act 1982. You have the right to seek an investigation by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or free phone 0800 802 602.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

If you have any questions about this decision please feel free to email our OIA Coordinator OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz I trust that this information meets your requirements. NMH, like other agencies across the state sector, supports the open disclosure of information to assist the public's understanding of how we are delivering publicly-funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released. If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P Bramley', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Peter Bramley
Chief Executive