

Phone: 03 546 1723

Private Bag 18
Nelson, New Zealand

18 July 2019

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Response to a request for official information

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your request for official information received 31 May 2019 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, followed by the necessary extension of time 28 June 2019, where you seek the following information.

In light of the recent media activity surrounding the oral health of children in New Zealand; the NZDOHTA is actively seeking responses on the state of children and adolescent oral health and to assess whether there has been any further investment in services since the 2008 major reorientation program to the Community Oral Health Service (COHS).

Please see the NMH response in the attached Template provided with your request, and for your information we have included additional contextual comment below.

- *Reference to 'not available'*

Where information is not available, denoted 'n/a' on the attached Template, it indicates that the NMH reporting system does not electronically capture this level of detail and, as such, we decline to respond under section 18(g) of the Act in *'that the information requested is not held by the department or organisation and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is either (i) held by another department or organisation; or (ii) connected more closely with the functions of another department or organisation'*.

- *Adolescent data*

Adolescents from Year 9 to their 18th birthday are enrolled with private dentists who are contracted to the DHB to provide adolescent oral health services. NMH does not hold, nor have a system to electronically capture adolescent data and, as such, we decline to respond to this aspect of your request under section 18(e) of the Act in *'that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist'*.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

- *Did not attend rates (Monday-Friday Clinics)*

In reference to page 3 of the attached Template, please refer to the attached 2018 *Number of Visits Actual and Failed Report*, noting the 2008 data is not available.

- *Age 5 and Year 8 DMFT/DMFT Data by ethnicity*

In reference to page 4 of the attached Template, please refer to the attached 2008 and 2018 *Data Worksheets*.

- *General Anaesthetic Cases – Comparison of 2008 and 2018 data*

In reference to page 2 of the attached Template, 72% of children needing General Anaesthetic (GA) treatment in 2018 had a primary diagnosis of 'Dental Caries' or 'Periapical Abscess', compared with 69% in 2008.

26% of children needing GA treatment in 2018 had an orthodontic condition, such as supernumerary teeth, malformation of teeth, hypomineralised teeth and disturbances of tooth eruption, compared with 16% in 2008.

While the broad reporting on ethnicity shows a similar pattern from 2008 – 2018, there has been an unprecedented increase in the volume of refugee children needing GA treatment for dental decay and its consequences of which, in turn, is disproportionate to other ethnic groups.

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.

If you have any questions about this decision please feel free to email our OIA Coordinator OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz

Please note that this letter (with your personal information removed), or an edited version of this letter, may be published on the Nelson Marlborough Health website.

Yours sincerely



Dr Peter Bramley
Chief Executive

cc: Ministry of Health via email: SectorOIA@moh.govt.nz

Encl:

- **Completed Template (4 pages)**
- **Number of Visits Actual and Failed (2 pages)**
- **2008 and 2018 Data Worksheets (5 pages)**

DHB Name:

Nelson Marlborough Health

Population Numbers	2008				2018			
		Māori	Pacific	ALL		Māori	Pacific	Other
	0-4 years	n/a	n/a	3626	0-4 years	1268	n/a	6243
	5-12 years 14743	n/a	n/a	14743	5-12 years	2605	n/a	13441
	Adolescents				Adolescents			
Service Provision (Is your service 40 hours/52 weeks? Please state nature of service)	35 hours & 25 minutes/41 weeks				40 hours/50 weeks (2 week closedown over Christmas/New Year)			
Age of 1 st visit for pre-schoolers (e.g. at 6 months of age, 9 months, 12 months, 24 months)	2 – 2 ½ years				6 – 9 months			
Examination Arrears	2008				2018			
		Māori	Pacific	ALL: 0-12yrs		Māori	Pacific	ALL: 0-12yrs
	0-4 years	n/a	n/a	2491	0-4 years	n/a	n/a	4371
	5-12 years	n/a	n/a	14%	5-12 years	n/a	n/a	22%
	Adolescents				Adolescents			

Dental or Oral Health Therapist/Patient Ratio	2009/10 (2008 not available) DT/Patient Ratio 1271				2018 OHDt/Patient Ratio 1602			
Percentage of population on 6 monthly recall	2008 12% 6 month High Risk Recall				2018 16% 12 month High Risk Recall			
Percentage of population on 18-month recall	2008 88% 12 month Low Risk Recall				2018 84% 18 month Low Risk Recall			
Dental or Oral Health Therapists FTE	2009/10 (2008 not available) 14.45FTE				2018 14.70 FTE			
Assistants FTE	2009/10 (2008 not available) 9.44FTE				2018 14.82 FTE			
Community Dentist FTE	2008 nil				2018 0.6FTE (fixed term contract extended to 2019)			
Oral Health Promoters/Kaiāwhina FTE	2008 nil				2018 1.2FTE			
Management/Admin FTE (includes TL/PDO)	2009/10 (2008 not available) 1.00 FTE				2018 Team Leader 1.00FTE Clinical Director 0.4FTE Oral Health Administrator .5FTE			
General Anaesthetic Cases		Māori	Pacific	Other		Māori	Pacific	Other
	0-2 years	4	0	8	0-2 years	6	0	6
	2-4 years	35	2	54	2-4 years	20	5	41
	5-12 years	44	8	135	5-12 years	52	10	131
	Adolescents	7	0	31	Adolescents	8	1	31
Number of Dental or Oral Health Therapist Vacancies (current)	n/a				1.6 FTE			
Length of time take to recruit	n/a				12 months (on average)			

Attrition rate/staff turnover	n/a	n/a																																																
Recruitment/Retention Barriers	n/a	n/a																																																
Any new investment in Oral Health since 2008 reorientation program. Please provide details including the financial investment amount.		During 2018 NMH funded the Nelson Tasman Pasifika Trust and Te Piki Oranga (Maori Health organisation) to undertake navigation to the oral health service and some oral health promotion activity. The total sum of this is \$40,000.																																																
Did not attend rates (Mon-Friday Clinics)	<table><tr><td colspan="4">2008</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Māori</td><td>Pacific</td><td>Other</td></tr><tr><td>0-2 years</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td></tr><tr><td>2-4 years</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td></tr><tr><td>5-12 years</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td></tr><tr><td>Adolescents</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	2008					Māori	Pacific	Other	0-2 years	n/a	n/a	n/a	2-4 years	n/a	n/a	n/a	5-12 years	n/a	n/a	n/a	Adolescents				<table><tr><td colspan="4">2018 – Refer Number of Visits Actual and Failed</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Māori</td><td>Pacific</td><td>Other</td></tr><tr><td>0-2 years</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2-4 years</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>5-12 years</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Adolescents</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	2018 – Refer Number of Visits Actual and Failed					Māori	Pacific	Other	0-2 years				2-4 years				5-12 years				Adolescents			
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Number of Stainless-Steel Crowns Performed by Dental or Oral Health Therapists within COHS	<table><tr><td>2008</td></tr><tr><td>0</td></tr></table>	2008	0	<table><tr><td>2018</td></tr><tr><td>1960</td></tr></table>	2018	1960																																												
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Age 5 and Year 8 DMFT/dmft Data by ethnicity	2008 – Refer 2008 Data Worksheets	2018 – Refer 2018 Data Worksheets
Any other comments regarding planned initiatives or challenges faced by the service.		Recruitment of Dental Therapists is extremely difficult and is causing significant issues to the service.

Number of Visits Actual and Failed

Date From: 01/01/2018

Date To: 31/12/2018

User: NMHS\Lancenn

Patient Grouping: By Year Level

Payor: COHS

Patient Grouping	Ethnicity	Number
Pre-School		680
	Asian	36
	European	330
	Maori	276
	Not Stated	1
	Other Ethnic Groups	1
	Pacific Islander	36
Primary		1810
	Asian	79
	European	921
	Maori	690
	Not Elsewhere Included	1
	Not Stated	1
	Other Ethnic Groups	11
	Pacific Islander	107

Number of Visits Actual and Failed

Date From: 01/01/2018

Date To: 31/12/2018

User: NMHS\Lancenn

Patient Grouping: By Year Level

Payor: COHS

Actual Visits

Patient Grouping	Ethnicity	Number
Pre-School		6656
	Asian	531
	European	4497
	Maori	1401
	Not Elsewhere Included	14
	Not Stated	3
	Other Ethnic Groups	52
	Pacific Islander	158
Primary		25400
	Asian	1546
	European	18223
	Maori	4661
	Not Elsewhere Included	25
	Not Stated	8
	Other Ethnic Groups	217
	Pacific Islander	714
	Response Unidentifiable* Not Used	6

Failed To Attend

Powered By: Spark Dental Technology

Revision: 58296

Page: 1 of 2

NELSON / BLENHEIM DATA WORKSHEET 2018

COMBINED

CLINIC	NO OF CHILDREN	CARIES FREE	%	PRESENT	MEAN PRESENT	SOUND	MEAN SOUND	MISS CARIES	FILLED	DECAYED	TOTAL dmf	MEAN DMF
5 YEAR OLDS												
MAORI												
NELSON	121	53	44%	2317	19	2032	17	26	79	206	311	3
BLENHEIM	99	44	44%	1917	19	1685	17	19	80	152	251	3
TOTAL	220	97	44%	4234	19	3717	17	45	159	358	562	3
NON-MAORI												
NELSON	740	468	63%	14306	19	13244	18	63	351	711	1125	2
BLENHEIM	387	280	72%	7536	19	7186	19	16	93	257	366	1
TOTAL	1127	748	66%	21842	19	20430	18	79	444	968	1491	1
GRAND TOTAL	1347	845	63%	26076	19	24147	18	124	603	1326	2053	2
FORM II												
MAORI												
NELSON	169	88	52%	4539	27	4329	26	2	126	84	212	1
BLENHEIM	92	60	65%	2418	26	2344	25	0	49	25	74	1
TOTAL	261	148	57%	6957	27	6673	26	2	175	109	286	1
NON-MAORI												
NELSON	1106	702	63%	28093	25	27239	25	8	516	338	862	1
BLENHEIM	454	348	77%	11476	25	11261	25	3	114	101	218	0
TOTAL	1560	1050	67%	39569	25	38500	25	11	630	439	1080	1
GRAND TOTAL	1821	1198	66%	46526	26	45173	25	13	805	548	1366	1

GDB FORMS		
ISSUED	RETURNED	PERCENT RETURNED

1809 1783 99%

5-year-olds - 2008 Calendar Year

Dental Health Status	Number of Children Examined	Number of Children Caries-Free		Number of Decayed Teeth	Number of Teeth Missing due to Caries	Number of Filled Teeth		Number of Decayed, Missing due to caries and Filled Teeth		% Caries Free	Mean d	Mean m	Mean f	Mean dmft
All 5-Year-Old Children	1,361	779		956	180	1050		2186		57.24%	0.70	0.13	0.77	1.61
All Fluoridated 5-Year-Old Children	0	0		0	0	0		0		#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
All Non-Fluoridated 5-Year-Old Children	1,361	779		956	180	1050		2186		57.24%	0.70	0.13	0.77	1.61
Maori Fluoridated 5-Year-Old Children	0	0		0	0	0		0		#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Maori Non-fluoridated 5-Year-Old Children	150	54		235	71	193		499		36.00%	1.57	0.47	1.29	3.33
Pacific Fluoridated 5-Year-Old Children	0	0		0	0	0		0		#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Pacific Non-fluoridated 5-Year-Old Children	21	9		14	7	37		58		42.86%	0.67	0.33	1.76	2.76
Other Fluoridated 5-Year-Old Children	0	0		0	0	0		0		#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Other Non-fluoridated 5-Year-Old Children	1,190	716		707	102	820		1629		60.17%	0.59	0.09	0.69	1.37

Year 8 Children - 2008 Calendar Year

Dental Health Status	Number of Children Examined	Number of Children Caries-Free		Number of Decayed Teeth	Number of Teeth Missing due to Caries	Number of Filled Teeth		Number of Decayed, Missing due to caries and Filled Teeth		% Caries Free	Mean D	Mean M	Mean F	Mean DMFT
All Year 8 Children	1,813	971		682	33	1456		2171		53.56%	0.38	0.02	0.80	1.20
All Fluoridated Year 8 Children	2	2		0	0	0		0		100.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
All Non-Fluoridated Year 8 Children	1,811	969		682	33	1456		2171		53.51%	0.38	0.02	0.80	1.20
Maori Fluoridated Year 8 Children	0	0		0	0	0		0		#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Maori Non-fluoridated Year 8 Children	240	89		146	21	314		481		37.08%	0.61	0.09	1.31	2.00
Pacific Fluoridated Year 8 Children	0	0		0	0	0		0		#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Pacific Non-fluoridated Year 8 Children	25	12		16	0	41		57		48.00%	0.64	0.00	1.64	2.28
Other Fluoridated Year 8 Children	2	2		0	0	0		0		100.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Non-fluoridated Year 8 Children	1,546	868		520	12	1101		1633		56.14%	0.34	0.01	0.71	1.06

Nelson-Marlborough

Five-year old Children, 2018 Calendar Year

Dental Health Status	Number of Children Examined	Number of Children Caries Free	Number of Decayed Teeth	Number of Teeth Missing due to Caries	Number of Filled Teeth	Number of Decayed, Missing due to caries and Filled Teeth	% Caries Free	Mean d	Mean m	Mean f	Mean dmft	Mean DMFT for children with caries			
All 5-year old Children	1,347	845	1,326	124	603	2,053	63%	0.98	0.09	0.45	1.52	Mean d	Mean m	Mean f	Mean dmft
All 5-year old Children												2.64	0.25	1.20	4.09
All Maori 5-year old Children						0									
All Pacific 5-year old Children						0									
All "Other" 5-year old Children						0									
All Fluoridated 5-year old Children						0									
All Non-Fluoridated 5-year old Children						0									
Maori Fluoridated 5-year old Children						0									
Maori Non-fluoridated 5-year old Children	220	97	358	45	159	562	44%	1.63	0.20	0.72	2.55	2.91	0.37	1.29	4.57
Pacific Fluoridated 5-year old Children						0									
Pacific Non-fluoridated 5-year old Children						0									
Other Fluoridated 5-year old Children						0									
Other Non-fluoridated 5-year old Children	1,127	748	968	79	444	1491	66%	0.86	0.07	0.39	1.32	2.55	0.21	1.17	3.93

Other comments

Enter any other comments here that may help explain the figures provided.

If any of these results did not meet your DHB's targets, you must provide an explanation here that includes a description of what your DHB is doing to rectify the problem.

2018 Target: 62% Achieved for all 5 year olds (COHS 63%)

Nelson-Marlborough

School Year 8 Children, 2018 Calendar Year

Dental Health Status	Number of Children Examined	Number of Children Caries Free	Number of Decayed Teeth	Number of Teeth Missing due to Caries	Number of Filled Teeth	Number of Decayed, Missing due to caries and Filled Teeth	% Caries Free	Mean D	Mean M	Mean F	Mean DMFT	Mean DMFT for children with caries			
												Mean D	Mean M	Mean F	Mean DMFT
All Year 8 Children	1,821	1,198	548	13	805	1,366	66%	0.30	0.01	0.44	0.75	0.88	0.02	1.29	2.19
All Maori Year 8 Children						0									
All Pacific Year 8 Children						0									
All "Other" Year 8 Children						0									
All Fluoridated Year 8 Children						0									
All Non-Fluoridated Year 8 Children						0									
Maori Fluoridated Year 8 Children						0									
Maori Non-fluoridated Year 8 Children	261	148	109	2	175	286	57%	0.42	0.01	0.67	1.10	0.96	0.02	1.55	2.53
Pacific Fluoridated Year 8 Children						0									
Pacific Non-fluoridated Year 8 Children						0									
Other Fluoridated Year 8 Children						0									
Other Non-fluoridated Year 8 Children	1,560	1,050	439	11	630	1,080	67%	0.28	0.01	0.40	0.69	0.86	0.02	1.24	2.12

Other comments

Enter any other comments here that may help explain the figures provided.

If any of these results did not meet your DHB's targets, you must provide an explanation here that includes a description of what your DHB is doing to rectify the problem.

2018 Target Mean Mean DMFT .83 achieved (COHS .75)