

12 September 2019

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Response to a request for official information

Dear ██████████

Thank you for your request for official information as a partial transfer of 3 (of 9) Points from the Ministry of Health and received 8 August 2019 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹ where you seek information about implementation of recommended staffing requirements for school based health services;

The Ministry of Health recommends the following minimum ratios:

- ***one full-time equivalent (FTE) registered nurse (RN) to 750 students in decile 1–3 secondary schools***
- ***one FTE RN to 200 students in high-needs contexts, such as alternative education units***
- ***RN attendance for a minimum of one day per week during term time.***

1. How many schools have taken up the recommendations?

Government policy has been to fund DHBs to provide school based health services to decile 1 to 3 schools and alternative education providers. This has recently expanded to decile 4 schools and will soon be expanded to decile 5 schools.

With this funding NMH contracts with the two Primary Health Organisations in Nelson Marlborough to provide health services to alternative education providers in the Nelson Marlborough district. There are no decile 1 – 3 secondary schools in the district.

NMH confirms that health service staffing requirements for alternative education providers meet the minimum recommended ratios (1 FTE RN to 200 students in high-needs contexts). Services are currently being rolled out to decile 4 schools and will roll out to decile 5 schools when funding becomes available.

2. Where are the schools that have taken up the recommendations?

The alternative education providers are based in Motueka, Nelson and Blenheim.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

3. Are you able to name the schools that have taken up the recommendations?

The alternative education providers are:

- OnTrac Waimea College
- Nelson Young Parent School
- Youth Nelson
- Abel Tasman Educational Trust (ATET)
- Marlborough Alternative Education

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

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 this.

Yours sincerely



Dr Peter Bramley
Chief Executive

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