

15 December 2020

Via Email: [REDACTED]

## Response to a request for official information

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for official information received 30 September 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)<sup>1</sup>, followed by the necessary extension of time 29 October 2020 and notice of decision 26 November 2020, where you seek the following information:

- 1. What has the DHB spent on locums for medical specialists every year for the past five years in;**
  - *General surgery*
  - *Orthopaedics*
  - *Enterology*
  - *Gynaecology*
  - *Ophthalmology*
  - *Urology*
  - *Cardiology*
- 2. Could I please have the total locum spend year by year over this period, as well as the total internal staff spent on specialists for the same periods?**
- 3. What is the size of the population the DHB serves and what is its annual operating budget?**

**NMH response:** Table One below provides a breakdown of the Locum spend by Speciality, the Total Locum spend (note this includes other specialities than those defined), the Total Employed Senior Medical Officer (SMO) spend, and Total DHB Expenditure (as published within the [NMH Annual Plan 2020/21](#) along with the DHB population (p8)), for each of the last five Financial Years (1 July – 30 June).

**TABLE ONE**

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
<b>Locum Speciality</b>					
• General Surgery	\$544,011	\$583,227	\$575,096	\$459,092	\$539,959
• Orthopaedics	\$152,626	\$286,787	\$211,077	\$406,133	\$326,377
• Gastroenterology	\$171,737	\$126,139	\$47,239	\$87,336	\$22,800
• Gynaecology	\$77,216	\$706,035	\$401,413	\$932,139	\$1,702,098
• Ophthalmology	\$18,061	\$145,729	\$109,949	\$50,722	\$184,959
• Urology	\$154,925	\$6,791	\$20,213	\$66,617	\$302,552
• Cardiology	\$93,971	\$136,299	\$63,873	\$8,576	\$111,723

<sup>1</sup> Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Total Locum	\$2,485,345	\$3,045,010	\$2,863,338	\$4,881,053	\$6,555,717
Total Employed SMO	\$36,012,463	\$38,135,589	\$40,075,618	\$42,060,002	\$41,890,684
Total DHB Expenditure	\$453.27M	\$466.67M	\$490.27M	\$514.67M	\$557.20M

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](http://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 [OIRequest@nmdhb.govt.nz](mailto:OIRequest@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



Dr Peter Bramley  
**Chief Executive**