

8 December 2020

[REDACTED]  
Via Email: [REDACTED]

### Response to a request for official information

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for official information received 9 November 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)<sup>1</sup>, followed by the necessary extension of time 7 December 2020, where you seek the following information:

- 1. Please provide a yearly breakdown of how many people were treated at Nelson-Marlborough District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.***
- 2. Please provide a yearly breakdown of the age groups of those treated at Nelson-Marlborough District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.***
- 3. Please provide a yearly breakdown of the ethnicity of those treated at Nelson-Marlborough District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.***

#### NMH response for Parts 1 – 3:

Alcohol-related presentations to the Emergency Department (ED) are recorded as “Alcohol ingested” or “Alcohol contributed to the ED event”, based on a clinical observation rather than a test result, and it would take a significant amount of time and resources to manually go through individual files of patients. As such, NMH declines to respond under section 18(f) ‘*the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research*’.

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

NMH response for Parts 4 – 6:

Data for Tables One to Three below has been electronically captured on admission clinical coding data for indicator "Hospitalisations wholly attributable to alcohol" (Alcohol-related harm).

- 4. Please provide a yearly breakdown of how many people were admitted to Nelson-Marlborough District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.**

**TABLE ONE**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	67	75	57	66	57	59

**NOTE:** Admission following a primary diagnosis of a condition wholly attributable to alcohol

- 5. Please provide a yearly breakdown of the age groups of those admitted to Nelson-Marlborough District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period).**

**TABLE TWO**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
0 to 20	8	1	3	5	3	2
21 to 40	9	17	10	12	8	12
41 to 60	33	41	37	34	17	27
61 to 80	17	14	7	14	27	15
81+	0	2	0	1	2	3
Total	67	75	57	66	57	59

**NOTE:** Admission following a primary diagnosis of a condition wholly attributable to alcohol

- 6. Please provide a yearly breakdown of the ethnicity of those admitted at Nelson-Marlborough District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.**

**TABLE THREE**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Asian	2	3	0	1	0	0
European	47	65	46	58	53	54
Maori	13	1	6	5	4	5
Other Ethnicity	5	6	3	2	0	0
Pacific Peoples	0	0	2	0	0	0
Total	67	75	57	66	57	59

**NOTE:** Admission following a primary diagnosis of a condition wholly attributable to alcohol

- 7. Please provide a yearly breakdown of how many people died from alcohol related harm at Nelson-Marlborough District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period)**

NMH response: Coronial services as part of the Ministry of Justice capture statistical data about unexpected deaths [coronial.information@justice.govt.nz](mailto:coronial.information@justice.govt.nz)

8. **Please provide a yearly breakdown of the cost for each person who was treated at Nelson-Marlborough District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related causes.**

NMH response: We do not track costs by diagnosis that enable us to provide costs for any particular treatment and, as such, NMH declines to respond under section 18(e) of the Act in *'that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist'*.

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 [OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz](mailto: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



Dr Peter Bramley  
**Chief Executive**