

21 December 2020

[Redacted]

Via Email: [Redacted]

Response to a request for official information

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your request for official information received 19 November 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, where you seek the following information:

- 1. How many non-Maori are currently on a waitlist for psychological intervention with a psychologist?***

NMH response: This data is not captured electronically. As such, it would take a significant amount of time and resources to go through individual patient/client files, and NMH declines to respond for this part of your request under section 18(f) *'the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research'*.

- 2. If Maori specific mental health services exist within the DHB MHAS:
A. What are the criteria for acceptance into these services?***

NMH response: Access criteria for the various mental health and addiction services is the same for Maori and non-Maori.

- B. How many referrals were made to these services 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020?
Please provide numbers of referrals for each service where more than one service.***

NMH response: This data is not captured electronically. As such, it would take a significant amount of time and resources to go through individual patient/client files, and NMH declines to respond for this part of your request under section 18(f) *'the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research'*.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

C. What psychiatric diagnoses did these people present with?

NMH response: Psychiatric diagnoses include mood disorders, anxiety, bipolar disorder, substance abuse, depression, suicidal thoughts.

D. How many referrals were accepted by these services in the absence of a psychiatric diagnosis? Please provide numbers of referrals for each service.

NMH response Parts C & D: These datasets are incomplete and our Mental Health and Addiction Community Services are in the process of rolling out electronic capture of Referral Reasons – high level information showing why a person has been referred rather than a formal diagnosis; the actual diagnosis may differ (an electronic system for clinicians to capture diagnosis codes in the community setting is not yet available). As such, it would take a significant amount of time and resources to go through individual patient/client files and, as such, NMH declines to respond for this part of your request under section 18(f) *‘the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research’*.

E. How many of these referrals were declined?

NMH response:

TABLE TWO

Referrals Received by Maori Specific Service where care not recorded

Service Team Name	Total
Maori Mental Health Nelson	< 5

Data Exclusion: Open Referrals; Referrals where provision of care via Community Contacts was recorded

Note: The exact number is withheld under s.9(2)(a) so as to protect the privacy of these individuals

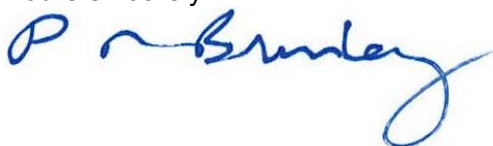
i. What were the three most common reasons for a referral being declined?

The individual ‘Did Not Attend’ the scheduled appointment, the absence of a psychiatric diagnosis, and the individual did not meet the access criteria in which case and where appropriate, they are re-directed to other services.

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.

Yours sincerely



Dr Peter Bramley
Chief Executive