

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Response to a request for official information

Thank you for your request for official information received 7 June 2022 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, followed by the necessary extension of time 6 July 2022, where you seek the following information.

“For each financial year: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and for the partial year of 2022 to date:

- “Number of FTE communications/media staff employed in each year (this includes all internal and external communications staff/content producers and social media staff)”*

Nelson Marlborough District Health NZ (HNZ) Response:

Table One outlines the number of ‘Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employed’ Communications staff for the specified Financial Years (FYs), to 30 June 2022.

TABLE ONE

Financial Year	FTE Employed
2021/22	3.4
2020/21	2.8
2019/20	2.8
2018/19	2.8
2017/18	2.7
2016/17	2.7

- “The salary range paid to communications staff in each year.”*

Nelson Marlborough District HNZ Response:

It is our Policy not to disclose salary range where there is concern for an individual’s personal information to be determined. Salary range information linked to an identifiable employee requires the protection of section 9(2)(a) ‘to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons’. In the circumstances, the withholding of that information is not outweighed by other considerations which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available (section 9(1)).

However we can disclose the average salary paid to Communications staff as shown in Table Two ‘Average Cost per FTE’.

TABLE TWO

Financial Year	Average Cost per FTE
2021/22	\$99,647
2020/21	\$97,548
2019/20	\$93,178
2018/19	\$80,688
2017/18	\$82,070
2016/17	\$74,387

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

3. “Number of communications/media contractors used in each year”

Nelson Marlborough District HNZ Response:

Please see Table Three, noting some communications contractors are short term project resource.

TABLE THREE

Financial Year	Number of Contractors
2021/22	2
2020/21	2
2019/20	1

Information for previous FY’s is not available in a form that will allow extraction from our information systems or reports. It would take a significant amount of time and resources to extract and manually review various files to collate this information, and under section 18(f) *‘the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research’*.

4. “Total sum paid to communications contractors in each year”

Nelson Marlborough District HNZ Response:

This information is not currently available in a form that will allow extraction from our information systems or reports. It would take a significant amount of time and resources to collate this information, and under section 18(f) *‘the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research’*.

5. “A breakdown of positions and numbers employed in each role (ie how many media advisors, senior media advisors, internal communications, managers, social media producers/managers)”

Nelson Marlborough District HNZ Response:

This information is not captured and under section 18(g) *‘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’*.

However we can provide ‘FTE Employed’ as at 30 June 2022, as shown in Table Four, noting one Fixed term (6 months) Communications Coordinator position was also in place at this time.

TABLE FOUR

Role	FTE Employed
Communications Manager	1
Communications Advisor – Senior	1.4
Communications Advisor – Digital	1
Total	3.4

6. “How many media queries received in each year”

Nelson Marlborough District HNZ Response:

This information is not routinely collected and is not available in a form that will allow extraction from our information systems or reports. It would take a significant amount of time and resources to extract and manually review various files to collate this information, and under section 18(f) *‘the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research’*.

7. “How many interview requests received in each year”

Nelson Marlborough District HNZ Response:

This information is not routinely collected and is not available in a form that will allow extraction from our information systems or reports. It would take a significant amount of time and resources to extract and manually review various files to collate this information, and under section 18(f) ‘the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research’.

8. “How many media interviews given, and to which media organisations and when”

Nelson Marlborough District HNZ Response:

This information is not routinely collected and is not available in a form that will allow extraction from our information systems or reports. It would take a significant amount of time and resources to extract and manually review various files to collate this information, and under section 18(f) ‘the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research’.

9. “Total salary costs for communications staff each year”

Nelson Marlborough District HNZ Response:

Please see Table Five.

TABLE FIVE

Financial Year	Total Cost
2021/22	\$249,119
2020/21	\$273,136
2019/20	\$260,899
2018/19	\$225,927
2017/18	\$221,590
2016/17	\$200,846

10. In each year, how many communications staff paid a salary more than \$100,000 per annum and \$200,000 per annum

Nelson Marlborough District HNZ Response:

Since 2018/19, one communications role has had a remuneration range of more than \$100,000. No communications roles have had a remuneration range of more than \$200,000.

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

Te Whatu Ora – Nelson Marlborough, 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.

Ngā mihi



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Nelson Marlborough