

19 February 2020

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Via email: [REDACTED]

Response to a request for official information

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for official information received 10 January 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, followed by the necessary extension of time 13 February 2020, where you seek the following information:

Amongst other issues, we are trying to get an overview on the annual government budget for “population nutrition promotion”, which is defined as “the investments in population promotion of healthy eating and healthy food environments for the prevention of obesity and diet-related NCDs, excluding all one-on-one promotion (primary care, antenatal services, maternal and child nursing services etc.), food safety, micronutrient deficiencies (e.g. folate fortification) and undernutrition”. We are also contacting the Ministry of Health and the Health Promotion Agency for information on their population nutrition promotion budgets.

We would like to get an estimate of your DHB budget for population nutrition promotion (as per definition above) over the last 3 years (2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20). It would be helpful if you could clarify how much of this budget is transferred to PHUs and/or PHOs. I realise that sometimes it is difficult to separate nutrition promotion from other health promotion activities such as physical activity.

The expenditure by NMH through the Public Health Service contract towards ‘Nutrition and Physical Activity’ is outlined in Table 1. This does not include expenditure which NMH has provided to the Primary Health Organisations (PHOs) toward nutrition and physical activity programmes as these are mostly focussed on personal health, although there are elements of population health activity. As you suggest, we are unable to separate the portion toward ‘Physical Activity’ from ‘Nutrition’ promotion.

TABLE 1

Nutrition and Physical Activity	
Financial Year	Budget
2017/18	\$103,883
2018/19	\$103,883
2019/20	\$193,883

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

In December 2019, the Ministry of Health added a new variation to the NMH Public Health Service contract for 'Healthy Active Learning' of which is nutrition support for schools and early learning centres. The funding for this contract, for seven months to 30 June 2020, is \$90,000.

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 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

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