

23 July 2020

[REDACTED]

Response to a request for official information

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for official information received 9 July 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, where you seek the following information:

- 1. What percentage of your usual clinical workforce is overseas-trained? If possible, please provide percentages of overseas-trained staffers in each of these categories: doctors, nurses, midwives, and allied health, science and technical professionals***

NMH response: Our electronic reporting system does not capture the location where employees gain qualifications, as a specific category.

- 2. What impact do you expect border restrictions to have on the DHB workforce over the next year?***

NMH response: In reference to the accepted definition of official information 'held', agencies are required to provide a fact-based response. There is no obligation to form an opinion or make an assumption and, as such, NMH is unable to respond under section 12(2) 'the official information requested shall be specified with due particularity in the request'.

- 3. Are there specialities likely to be under pressure as a result of border restrictions? For example, because there is a small workforce in New Zealand or because of overseas training needs.***

NMH response: The majority of our Senior Medical Officer positions are recruited overseas.

- 4. Is your DHB currently recruiting for any clinical positions which you cannot fill with New Zealand applicants? If so, how many, and what is/are the positions?***

NMH response: Yes. The DHB advertises specific positions in both New Zealand and overseas at the same time. The majority of our Senior Medical Officer positions, in particular Radiologists and Psychiatrists, are filled by overseas candidates.

- 5. Have you had any overseas-trained and recruited clinicians cut contracts short and return home because of COVID? If so, how many, and in what category (doctor, nurse ...)?***

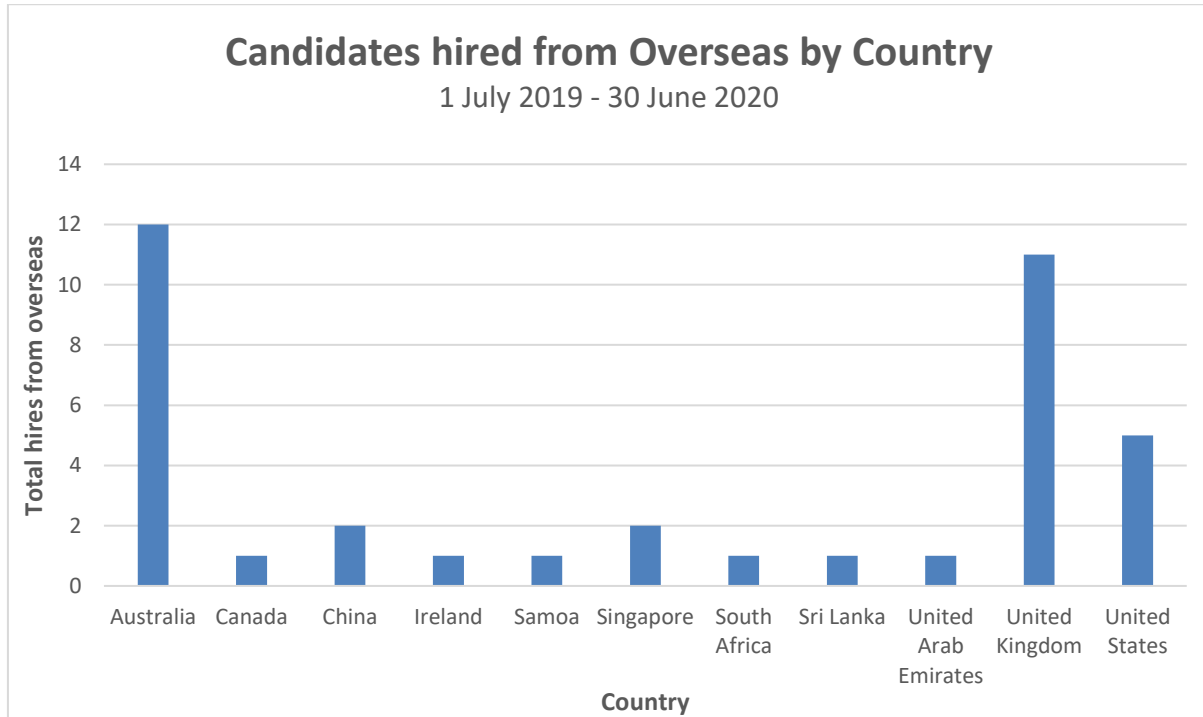
NMH response: We are not aware of any candidates recruited overseas terminating their contracts due to COVID-19.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

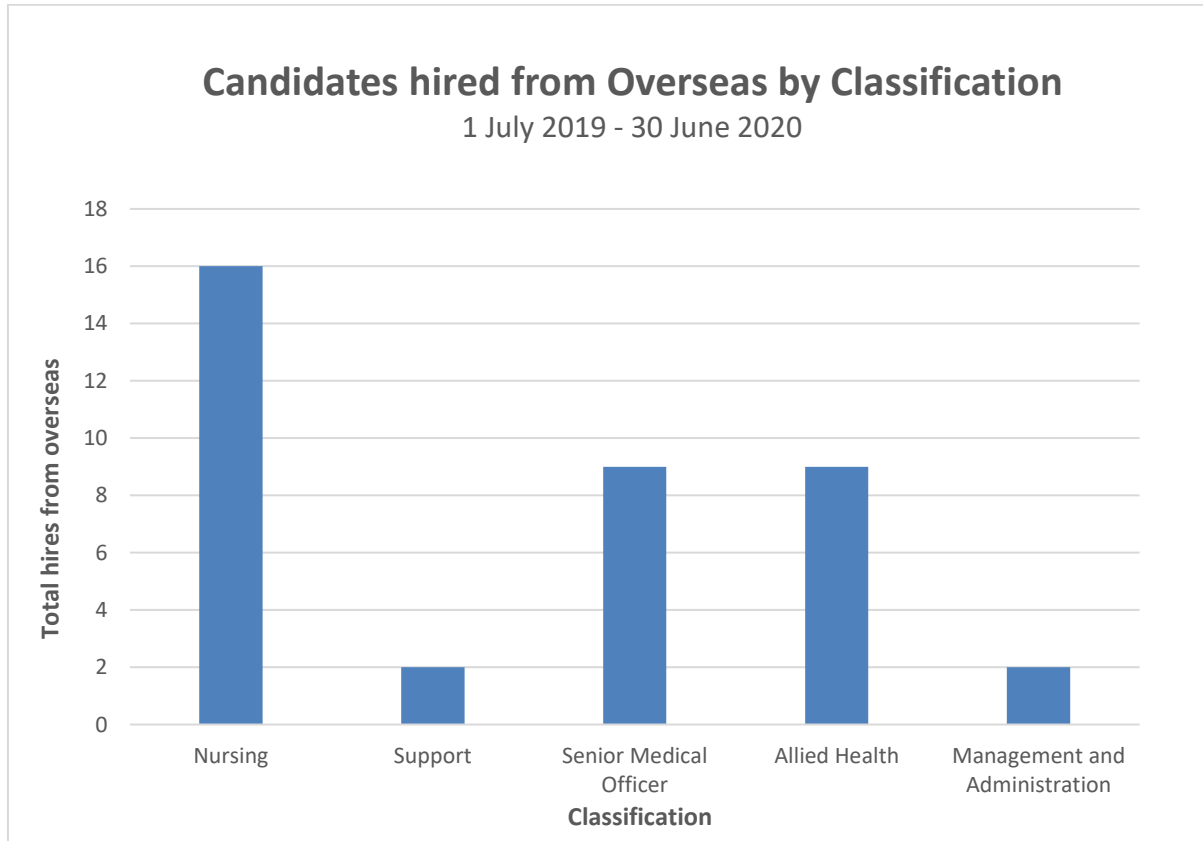
6. Anything else you wish to add?

NMH response: Graphs 1 and 2 below show the proportion of candidates recruited from overseas by Country and by Classification.

GRAPH 1



GRAPH 2



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 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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P Bramley', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Peter Bramley
Chief Executive