

7 May 2021

Via Email: [REDACTED]

Response to a request for official information

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for official information received 19 April 2021 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, where you seek the following information.

1. *How many children aged 0-14 presented to hospital with a dog-related injury in the last year?*

NMH response: In Calendar Year 2020, there were five ED presentations.

2. *How many of those children required a procedure (e.g sutures), or admission?*

NMH response: Two were admitted to hospital.

3. *What were the ethnic and age demographics of the those children?*

NMH response: Two children were European and three Maori, and all under ten years of age. Exact ages are withheld due to risk of individual identifiability and, as such, NMH declines to release the information under 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 render it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available.

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



Lexie O'Shea
Chief Executive

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board