

27 May 2022



### Response to a request for official information



Thank you for your request for official information received 23 May 2022 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)<sup>1</sup>, where you seek following information.

1. *"Does the DHB have a "dedicated AOD clinician" in the Nelson/Blenheim district courts?"*

NMH response:

Yes, we have dedicated alcohol and other drug (AOD) clinicians in the courts.

2. *"Is the clinician's role primarily focused on providing brief assessments (as in alcohol and drug screening which might take 15-20 minutes) or providing comprehensive AOD assessments (which would include background issues and circumstances - including mental health issues - which might predispose the offender to using alcohol and drugs?"*

NMH response:

Yes, they conduct comprehensive assessments only.

3. *"Does that dedicated clinician have any responsibilities other than providing alcohol and drug assessments to the courts? If so, what are those other responsibilities?"*

NMH response:

Yes, they are 'community alcohol and other drug' health clinicians. Other roles are dependent on the professional scope of practice of the health practitioners.

4. *"Can you please advise, how many comprehensive alcohol and drug assessments were provided to the courts in Nelson/Blenheim in 2021?"*

NMH response:

210.

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<sup>1</sup> Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

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](http://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](mailto:OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz)

I trust 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 'Lexie O'Shea', is positioned above the typed name.

Lexie O'Shea  
**Chief Executive**