

Corporate: DHB expenses
Proactive Release : 18 March 2020

09 March 2020

9(2)(a)
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Email: 9(2)(a) [Redacted]

Dear 9(2)(a) [Redacted]

Official Information Act (1982) Request

I write in response to your Official Information Act request, received by us on 26 February 2020. You requested the following information:

- 1. A cost breakdown of Christmas party allocations for each sector of the DHB, including head office, for the year 2019.**
- 2. A cost breakdown of all end-of-year bonuses allocated in the year 2019 by person and job title.**
- 3. A cost breakdown of all international travel taken by the Chief Executive, paid for by the DHB in the year 2019.**
 - a. I would like it stipulated where the Chief Executive travelled and what the purpose was.*

I would like this in a fully searchable format.

As context for this response, Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 569,400 people). Our services are delivered via hospital, outpatient/ ambulatory and community-based models of care. We employ more than 7,500 FTE staff, and see more than 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year. We receive more than \$1.6 billion from the Government to deliver these services.

Our responses to each of your questions are below.

- 1. A cost breakdown of Christmas party allocations for each sector of the DHB, including head office, for the year 2019.**

CM Health has approved a contribution of \$20.00 per staff member towards departmental Christmas celebrations for many years. We believe this is a small token of appreciation to show our staff that we value their contribution to improving the health outcomes of our community. This can be used by services towards an activity that enables teams to celebrate together at the end of the year. This usually occurs via shared meal or a contribution to a team activity (not monetary vouchers). This arrangement applies for all staff at CM Health, including the Executive Leadership team.

We acknowledge that the full amount allocated for this purpose is not claimed by all staff employed at the DHB, due to roster and cover arrangements in many services. Each department/ division holds a record of what is spent, manages costs and approvals through the normal channels, and within departmental budgets.

Any CM Health employees rostered to work on Christmas Day each year are also provided with a Christmas meal on the day, funded by CM Health. This is prepared by the hospital kitchen, and served in the cafeteria.

2. A cost breakdown of all end-of-year bonuses allocated in the year 2019 by person and job title.

As a District Health Board, we do not pay any employees an “end-of-year bonus”. The majority of our employees are on “multi-employer collective agreements” which are publicly available, and set out eligibility for any entitlements, additional allowances and gratuities.

3. A cost breakdown of all international travel taken by the Chief Executive, paid for by the DHB in the year 2019.

- 1. I would like it stipulated where the Chief Executive travelled, and what the purpose was.*

As Chief Executive, I did not travel overseas on district health board business in 2019, and therefore no payments by CM Health were made. This information and other Chief Executive expenses are declared publicly each financial year, and that declaration is available on our website. The State Service Commission also publishes this information.

- <https://countiesmanukau.health.nz/assets/About-CMH/Board-and-committees/CE-Expenditure-Disclosures/2018-2019-CE-Expense-Disclosure- CM Health.pdf>

I trust this information satisfactorily answers your query. If you are not satisfied with this response you are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau DHB website.

Yours sincerely,



Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health