

Human Resources : Industrial Action - medical laboratory  
Proactive Release: 28 November 2019



18 November 2019

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

E-mail: 9(2)(a) [Redacted]

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

**Official Information Act (1982) Request**

I write in response to your Official Information Act request, dated 30 October 2019. You requested the following information:

**In relation to the Medical Laboratory Workers (MLW) strike that has taken place on 11 October 2019:**

- 1. Any remuneration, including but not limited to incentives, of Laboratory Workers, and any other employee for work carried out as a result of the strike actions.**

No additional remuneration or incentives were paid to employees for work carried out as a result of the strike. Lab workers who were non-union members or who were members of the PSA union worked as usual during the strike period.

- 2. Any ancillary costs incurred by the DHB as a result of the strike action including, but not limited to, meals provided, business-related travel and accommodation and/or alternative days off.**

There were no ancillary costs incurred by CMDHB as a result of the strike action.

- 3. Further to item (1) above, detail of all costs associated with and time spent by any other staff such as administrators, payroll staff and managers undertaking tasks resulting from the strike action including, but not limited to, rescheduling of patients, contingency planning, calculating pay alterations as a result of strike action, drafting communication with the public and other staff regarding the strike.**

We do not have a means to accurately distinguish the costs and specific time involved in work related to responding to any industrial action by other CMDHB and related staff, and therefore do not hold information on this detail. Addressing contingency planning and responding appropriately, including these specific tasks listed, forms a part of many roles across our organisation. These employees will manage this work within their available capacity, and the impact is on the 'opportunity costs' involved in other work that cannot be done at the same time.

**4. The loss of revenue from rescheduling of surgeries and clinics, during the period of the strike.**

There was no rescheduling of surgeries, clinics or any other clinical services during the period of the strike, therefore there was no loss of revenue for CMDHB.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Apa', with a light blue shadow effect underneath.

Fepulea'i Margie Apa  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Counties Manukau Health**