

8th April 2021

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request for – Youth Health Services

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 6th March 2021, you requested the following information:

1. **Where does youth health service sit within the health delivery system and or DHB?**
2. **Do youth health service vary within DHBs? Do they depend on the region, communities, age group served? May you support answer with examples of services; that is, do we find a particular type of youth health service dominating in one region than the other?**
3. **Is there a communication strategy in place to inform youth about health services?**
4. **Is there an inventory of ethnicities and sex of youth that utilise the youth health service? If yes, does the inventory inform the planning and formation of youth health services?**

Counties Manukau Health Response:

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 8,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 601,490 people). We see over 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year, and over 2,000 visitors come through Middlemore Hospital daily.

Our services are delivered via hospital, outpatient, ambulatory and community-based models of care. We provide regional and supra-regional specialist services i.e. for orthopaedics, plastics, burns and spinal services. There are also several specialist services provided including tertiary surgical services, medical services, mental health and addiction services.

Counties Manukau Health has a young population with nearly 1 in 6 people aged between 15 and 24. Adolescents and young adults have different health needs to younger children and older adults, and need health services that address the many physical, social, emotional and life changes they are experiencing. We have a number of teams who specialise in meeting the health needs of rangatahi or young people living in our area.

1. **Where does youth health service sit within the health delivery system and or DHB?**

We provide comprehensive medical health services for young people, this includes acute and planned care medical, psychological and school based health services. Information on the services provided is publicly available on our website and also on Health Point at the following links:

- **CM Health Website** - <https://countiesmanukau.health.nz/our-services/youth-health-services/>
- **Kidz First Children's Hospital** - <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/kidz-first-childrens-hospital/>
- **Centre for Youth Health** - <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/public/paediatrics/kidz-first-centre-for-youth-health/>
- **Taunaki and Te Puawaitanga Child, Family and Youth Mental Health** – <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/public/mental-health-specialty/counties-manukau-health-taunaki-te-puawaitanga/>
- **Youth School Health Services** – <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/public/community/counties-manukau-health-youth-school-health/>

2. Do youth health service vary within DHBs? Do they depend on the region, communities, age group served? May you support answer with examples of services; that is, do we find a particular type of youth health service dominating in one region than the other?

Each DHB will fund and adapt services to meet the needs of their population and so yes, youth health services will depend on the needs and demographics of each DHB. We do not hold information on youth health services other DHBs are currently providing. There are some general requirements that all DHBs are required to deliver on. Information on these can be found in the Nationwide Service Framework Library accessible at the below link:

- <https://nsfl.health.govt.nz>

3. Is there a communication strategy in place to inform youth about health services?

CM Health does not have a youth specific communications strategy. We undertake communications activity that informs youth as required. For example, we are currently undertaking a range of communications focused on informing young people aged 15-30 years olds about the MMR vaccine. School nurses are another important avenue for communicating with youth through school communities.

4. Is there an inventory of ethnicities and sex of youth that utilise the youth health service? If yes, does the inventory inform the planning and formation of youth health services?

We utilise population health data to inform the funding and development of youth services which includes demographic information such as age, gender and ethnicity. This enables us to better meet the needs of our population.

I trust this information answers your request. You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau Health website. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely



Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health