

10th February 2021



Dear 

Official Information Act Request for – Sign Language Interpreting

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 22nd December 2020, you requested the following information:

- 1. “Which govt agencies that currently fund NZSL¹ interpreting do not have contracts in place with suppliers and are instead operating in an ad-hoc manner?”**

Counties Manukau Health Response:

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 7,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 569,400 people). We see over 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year, and over 2,000 visitors come through Middlemore Hospital daily.

The CM Health Interpreting Service has an arrangement in place with a New Zealand Sign Language supplier. In addition to this we also two qualified Sign Language interpreters who are employed as casual employees.

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
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