

## West Coast District Health Board

## Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

Corporate Office High Street, Greymouth 7840 Telephone 03 769-7400 Fax 03 769-7791

19 October 2018



## **RE Official information request WCDHB 9218**

We refer to your email dated 1 October 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB: I note your request was clarified as below.

- All correspondence to and from the West Coast District Health Board (Board) and WCDHB staff, regarding the proposed Westport Integrated Family Health Centre since April 1 this year.
- The minutes of any meetings since April 1 at which the Westport IFHC was discussed.

We responded to your original request indicating the likelihood of refusing this under section 18 (f) of the Official Information Act in that to provide the information requested would entail substantial collation and research due to the amount of documentation that would need to be reviewed.

We subsequently consulted with you, as required by section (18B of the OIA). However, although you subsequently changed your request to 'correspondence only' for the six month period, we still consider that the revised request constitutes substantial collation and research. We are therefore declining your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

We acknowledge that in November 2017 we granted you a similar response covering a period of 12 months which resulted in a 926 page document that, although it required a significant extension of the timeframe for response, entailed no charge. With the benefit of hindsight, we now know that the amount of work involved in locating, researching and collating this information and the effort involved in determining what information fell within scope of the request had a direct effect on other operations due to the diversion of resources to meet this request.

If you would like to further narrow your scope or provide us with specific questions around the proposed Westport Integrated Family Health Centre we would be happy to consider any new requests under the specifications of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision to withhold information you may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek an investigation and review of our decision from the Ombudsman.

Information about how to make a complaint is available at  $\underline{www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/}$  or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the West Coast DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

**Greg Hamilton** 

**Acting Executive Director** 

**Planning, Funding & Decision Support**