



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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22 August 2019

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RE Official Information Act request WCDHB 9334

I refer to your email dated 25 July 2019 to the Ministry of Health which they subsequently partially transferred to us on 8 August 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB. This request relates to the Youth Health Care in Secondary Schools and the Ministry of Health recommendations.

The Ministry of Health recommends the following minimum ratios:

- ***One full-time equivalent (FTE) registered nurse (RN) to 750 students in decile 1-3 secondary schools***
- ***One FTE RN to 200 students in high-needs contexts, such as alternative education units***
- ***RN attendance for a minimum of one day per week during term time).***

The Ministry of Health transferred Questions 2, 3 and 4 of your six questions. Specifically:

- 2. How many schools have taken up the recommendations?**
- 3. Where are the schools that have taken up the recommendations?**
- 4. Are you able to name the schools that have taken up the recommendations?**

All seven secondary schools in the West Coast DHB region (including Area Schools) have accessed Youth Health Care in the form of Universal Health Assessments for students which are provided by the West Coast DHB through the Public Health Nurses and Rural Nurses Specialists based in the schools' community.

The nature of working in remote rural area using community nurses who have multiple roles means that the ratio of nurses to students for secondary schools is not always met, however the ratio for alternative education units is met. The Ministry of Health is aware of this.

The schools are Karamea Area School, Buller High School (Westport), Reefton Area School, Greymouth High School, John Paul II High School (Greymouth), Westland High School (Hokitika) and South Westland Area School (Hari Hari).

Both the Alternative Education units in the region also access this service. Buller Alternative Education is based at Buller High School and the Greymouth site is co-located at Tai Poutini Polytechnic.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carolyn Gullery', with a long, sweeping underline.

Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support