



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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28 November 2019

9(2)(a)

RE Official Information Act request WCDHB 9366

I refer to your email, dated 30 October 2019, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB.

Response:

Buller Health includes a range of services including general practice (Buller Medical), acute and urgent care, community care and therapy services. We have a staffing workforce that can flex across some of these services depending on the needs at the time. Additionally, there is a number of staff who primarily work in the community and have their "base" located in the Buller Health building in Westport. For the purpose of this Official Information Act request, the data provided below includes all of the staff working as either locum or permanent employees at or from this Westport facility, and who may also be additionally engaged as part of the wider health systems of Buller. It does not include staffing resources that serve in the Buller area that are usually located or based at other localities or other facilities.

With this caveat noted, the answers to your specific questions are as follows:

- 1. The number of staff currently employed in each discipline at Buller Health (i.e. registered nurses, doctors, district nurses, allied health), expressed as both a raw number and as FTEs please.**

As of today, the number of staff currently employed at the Buller Health facility (as defined above) is as follows. Please refer to **Table one** (below).

Table one:

Staff Category	Head Count	Full Time Equivalent
Medical employees	10	7.6
Nursing Staff	62	40.6
Allied Health Staff	13	9.51
Administration Staff	17	11.27
TOTAL	102	68.98

2. The number of staff expected to be employed in each discipline at Buller Health when the new health centre opens, expressed as both a raw number and as FTEs.

The number of staff employed is not determined by the facility but rather through ongoing work the team undertakes to look at the needs of the community and resourcing required to best meet this need. This is reviewed on an annual basis through our planning and budget process. An example of this is the increase in resourcing for Community Mental Health that has been included in this year's budget as part of our commitment to provide crisis response in each of our main localities.

3. The annual staff cost for Buller Health in the year to June 30, 2019.

During the year to 30 June 2019, the total cost of staffing at Buller Health (as defined above) was \$5,355,375. The cost for mental health services across the DHB was financed from Greymouth and is not reflected in the expenditure to June 2019.

4. The expected annual staff cost for Buller Health after the new health centre opens.

As noted in question 2 above, determination of staffing that may be located in the new Buller Health facility and those that might be located in other facilities is not based per facility but it is a continuous work by the team who look at community needs and resourcing requirements to best meet the service needs. Accordingly, associated costs also therefore yet been determined.

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



Melissa Macfarlane
Acting Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support