



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

Corporate Office
High Street, Greymouth

Telephone 03 768 0499
Fax 03 768 2791

24 August 2020

9(2)(a)

RE Official information request WCDHB 9452

I refer to email dated 1 July 2020 to the Ministry of Health which they subsequently partially transferred to us on 23 July 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB regarding how COVID-19 has impacted on the community oral health service for pre-school and primary school children. Specifically question 1.

- 1. Can you please let me know the current percentage of overdue cases across the Northern, Midland, Central and Southern regions– and how that compares to the past two years.**
 - a. What are the longest wait times?**
 - b. Where are they?**

Please refer to **Table one** (below) for the percentage of pre-school and Primary school children overdue for community oral health service as at the end of July 2020.

Table one: West Coast DHB as at the end of July 2020.

Year	Overdue	>6 months overdue
2016	7%	0.1%
2017	5%	0.0%
2018	5%	0.0%
2019	2%	0.0%
2020	14%	0.0%

We don't record the longest waiting times except at year end for annual CW03 reports that I note the Ministry is releasing. We do record the percentage for more than six months overdue and we have included those figures.

It should also be noted that while the percentage overdue rose rapidly when services ceased operating (when the Level 4 lockdown started at the end of March) they have been improving since; the percentage overdue has dropped from a high of 16% at the end of May as we work through the backlog.

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 'Gullery', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support