



# *West Coast District Health Board*

## *Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini*

Corporate Office  
High Street, Greymouth

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24 August 2020

9(2)(a)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### **RE Official information request WCDHB 9454**

I refer to your email dated 24 July 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB regarding dietitians. Specifically:

#### **1. *The actual number of dietitians – i.e. headcount.***

West Coast DHB employs just three individual dietitians who work clinically (2.2 FTE), plus one who holds a leadership role for dietetics (at 0.5 FTE). Other dietitians that operate and provide public services within the wider West Coast health system are engaged by their respective employers with whom the DHB has contracts for service. We do not hold information on these dietitians.

#### **2. *The number of dietitians on each salary step.***

Given that we have so few dietitians, we are declining to provide a further breakdown of their individual employment information under Section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act i.e. “...to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.”

#### **3. *For continuing professional development for DHB employed dietitians:***

- ***Total budget for 2018 and 2019 financial years***
- ***Total spend for 2018 and 2019 financial years***
- ***A breakdown of:***
  - ***Spend on training***
  - ***Spend on all other professional development.***

Training for allied health professionals employed by West Coast DHB – including dietitians – is all held within a central budget; one specific for people who work with mental health and one for staff who operate more generally. We do not allocate a specific amount by profession within this budget pool. Again, given that we have so few dietitians, we are declining to provide a further breakdown of the amount spent on training and on other professional development for these individuals under Section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act i.e. “...to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.”

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

You may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek a review of our decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://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

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**