



# West Coast District Health Board

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## Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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23 February 2022

9(2)(a)



### RE Official Information Act request WCDHB 9664

I refer to your email dated 3 February 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB regarding West Coast Primary Healthcare. Specifically:

*I am following up on some information I received in an OIA from Taranaki DHB regarding its general practice at Hāwera Hospital. Using the OIA I asked the DHB **how much it costs to run the practice** (The South Taranaki Rural Health General Practice) and they told me that expenses attributed to the practice **from October 2020 to December 2021** come to \$1,497,168, with revenue at \$433,882.*

**I was also wondering if it would be possible to obtain similar information regarding expenses and revenue, with a breakdown of what each of these include (i.e does expenses include rent, salaries, capitation, and does revenue include patient fees, co-payments etc) from the West Coast DHB, for the four practices that they own, as well as what the enrolled population numbers are for these practices.**

The West Coast DHB has the smallest population of any DHB in the country. We are responsible for 32,410 people, equating to 0.6% of the total population. West Coast DHB own and manage three major health facilities in Greymouth, Westport and Reefton and five general practices across the West Coast.

While the West Coast DHB are the smallest DHB by population, we have the third largest geographical area, making the West Coast DHB the most sparsely populated DHB in the country with only 1.4 people per square kilometer. Our district extends from Karamea in the north, to Jackson Bay in the south, and Otira in the east.

The West Coast DHB includes their primary practices in Integrated Health Service models. This encompasses not just the primary practice, but other services provided in the rural communities.

For the Integrated Health Service in the Northern region this includes satellite clinics in Karamea and Ngakawau, the primary practice in Westport along with an unplanned acute zone in Westport and all associated management and support functions. The Karamea and Ngakawau clinics are run with Nurse Practitioners with the support of GP's.

The Reefton Service includes the primary practice along with the Aged Residential Care facility and associated support functions.

Te Nikau encompasses the Central area of the West Coast DHB including the primary Practice within Te Nikau Hospital and the satellite clinic in Moana.

The South Westland service has the main clinic in Franz Josef with satellite clinics in Hari Hari, Whataroa, Fox Glacier and Haast. These satellite clinics again utilise Nurse Practitioners along with the backup of GP's.

All of the above areas also provide Primary Response in Medical Emergencies (PRIME) services to support the ambulance service.

The figures in **Table one** (below) show all revenue and expenses, for the period 1 October 2020 to 30 November 2021, for each of the areas and should be read in conjunction with the notes above:

**Table one:**

	Northern	Reefton	Te Nikau	South Westland	Total
<b>Enrolled population of DHB-owned practices</b>	<b>5757</b>	<b>1618</b>	<b>10187</b>	<b>1463</b>	<b>19025</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE - All Sources *</b>	<b>(3,177,586)</b>	<b>(1,282,296)</b>	<b>(4,050,038)</b>	<b>(914,854)</b>	<b>(9,424,774)</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Employee Related Expenses	6,852,566	2,405,226	4,444,042	1,808,165	15,509,999
Clinical Costs	229,808	93,352	157,406	102,817	583,383
Non-Clinical Costs	244,815	57,327	82,809	59,058	444,009
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>7,327,189</b>	<b>2,555,905</b>	<b>4,684,257</b>	<b>1,970,040</b>	<b>16,537,391</b>
<b>NET BEFORE INTEREST &amp; DEPRECIATION</b>	<b>4,149,603</b>	<b>1,273,609</b>	<b>634,219</b>	<b>1,055,186</b>	<b>7,112,617</b>
* Includes Patient contribution under Very Low-Cost Access scheme.					

**Please note** that there are three major independent private general practices on the West Coast that are not owned and operated by the DHB. We do not hold data on their operational revenue or costs. (Declined pursuant to section 18(g) of the Official Information Act i.e. *"...the information is not held by the West Coast DHB".*)

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



Ralph La Salle  
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Canterbury DHB & West Coast DHB