

18 August 2020

[Redacted]

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Re: Official Information Act Request

I refer to your Official Information Act request received on 23 July 2020 in which you specifically requested the following:

- The actual number of Pharmacists – i.e. headcount.
- The actual number of Pharmacy Technicians – i.e. headcount.
- The actual number of Pharmacy Assistants – i.e. headcount.

In accordance with s.9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act, we are withholding the information on individual employees in order to protect their privacy. We can however provide the following aggregate information on Southern DHB's Pharmacy workforce.

Pharmacy staff employed by Southern DHB are on the APEX Southern DHB SECA

	Headcount	Full time equivalent
Pharmacy Interns	3	3
Pharmacy Assistants	3	2.5
Pharmacy Technicians	12	10.8
Pharmacists	29	22.35

- The number of employees, broken down into Pharmacists, Technicians, and Assistants on each salary step.

Pharmacy Technicians

Salary steps	No of employees
3 years or less experience	7
Steps 5-8	5

Pharmacists

Salary steps	No of employees
5 years or less experience	1
Steps 5-6	13
Step 8	7
Step 9-10 (above)	8

- For continuing professional development for DHB employed pharmacy staff:
 - Total budget for 2018 and 2019 financial years
 - Total spend for 2018 and 2019 financial years
 - A breakdown of
 - Spend on training for qualifications including technicians level 5 and 6, pharmacist prescriber, and postgraduate diploma in clinical pharmacy.
 - Spend on all other professional development.

Professional development funds are as outlined below however additional information requested as part of this OIA is not available.

	Total Budget 2018/19	Total Spend 2018/19		Total Budget 2019/2020	Total Spend 2019/2020
Pharmacists	\$18,013	\$21,080		\$18,013	\$10,276
Pharmacy interns	\$1,794	\$5,455		\$1,794	
Pharmacy Technicians	\$6,750	\$2,483		\$6,750	\$1,367
TOTALS	\$26,557	\$29,018		\$26,557	\$11,643

The above data does not include employee time costs to attend training/conference. In addition, employees apply for DHB Allied Health Scholarships – approx. \$3,000 - \$4,000 per annum for Pharmacy over the last couple of years plus potential Charitable Trust applications not included. The total spend for the 2019/2020 year has been impacted by Covid 19.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of our decision by the Ombudsman. The Ombudsman's Office can be contacted on 0800 802 602 or on-line at <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/>.

Yours sincerely



Chris Fleming
Chief Executive Officer