

1 March 2023

s 9(2)(a)

**Official information request HNZ00008438**

Thank you for your email on 7 December 2022, asking for the following which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

1. *“How many teenagers (up to and including 18 y/o) and children have sought treatment / advice from the Centre for Youth Health (CfYH) covering the metro-Auckland region because of issues relating to gender identity and being transgender?”*
2. *How many teenagers and children (up to and including 18 y/o) have been prescribed puberty blockers? How many children have been prescribed puberty blockers (i.e. prescribed at least one dispensing of '1009 Leuprorelin' and '2540 Goserelin')?*
3. *How many teenagers and children (up to and including 18 y/o) have received gender affirming genital surgery? How many children have received gender affirming genital surgery?  
We request this information for each of the years from 2010 onwards.”*

Please see outlined below a response to each part of your request.

1. *How many teenagers (up to and including 18 y/o) and children have sought treatment / advice from the Centre for Youth Health (CfYH) covering the metro-Auckland region because of issues relating to gender identity and being transgender*

Please note that Te Whatu Ora Counties Manukau is the Northern Region provider of this service which includes people domiciled in Auckland and Waitematā districts.

Dates (1 July 2018 – 30 June 2022)	Counties Manukau	Auckland	Waitematā	Total
1/7/18 - 30/6/19	25	40	39	
1/7/19 - 30/6/20	29	31	50	
1/7/20 - 30/6/21	70	57	56	
1/7/21 - 30/6/22	51	43	75	
<b>Total</b>	175	171	220	566

Te Whatu Ora Counties Manukau, Auckland and Waitematā are unable to provide data prior to 1 July 2018, as we were not using specific coding to capture this information prior to this date.

2. *How many teenagers and children (up to and including 18 y/o) have been prescribed puberty blockers? How many children have been prescribed puberty blockers (i.e. prescribed at least one dispensing of '1009 Leuprorelin' and '2540 Goserelin')?*

To provide you with this information, Te Whatu Ora staff would have to manually review individual clinical files. Frontline clinical staff would need to review all clinical records of patients' that received the above medication which would require significant time and resource. This would take frontline staff away from their clinical work and prejudice Te Whatu Ora's ability to provide core clinical services. As such, this part of your request is also refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research. I have

considered whether Te Whatu Ora would be able to respond to your request given the ability to charge for the information requested, however, I have concluded that Te Whatu Ora's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

3. *How many teenagers and children (up to and including 18 y/o) have received gender affirming genital surgery? How many children have received gender affirming genital surgery?*

The criteria for people wanting to access the Te Whatu Ora Gender Affirming Genital Surgical Service (GAgSS) must be 18 years or over. No publicly funded gender affirming GAgSS surgeries have been performed by Te Whatu Ora on anyone under 18 years of age.

### **How to get in contact**

If you have any questions, you can contact us at [h.nz.OIA@health.govt.nz](mailto:h.nz.OIA@health.govt.nz).

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Te Whatu Ora may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available on our website.

Nāku iti noa, nā

*Sasha Wood*

Sasha Wood  
**Interim Lead OIA & Proactive Release  
Government Partnership and Risk**