

24 May 2023



Official information request HN200018675

Thank you for your email on 28 April 2023, asking for the following which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

“Following the recent article published by RNZ (link below), our team have concerns about the indication that there have been decisions made about the future of RMO training and support under Te Whatu Ora without proper engagement. In particular we are concerned about the following comments:

- *Coordinated training programme for junior doctors to be implemented’*
- *‘is on the verge of bringing in nationally coordinated training’*
- *‘The association’s initiative was being co-designed since before Christmas with Te Whatu Ora’*

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/488260/a-lot-to-say-for-this-system-coordinated-trainingprogramme-for-junior-doctors-to-be-implemented>”

Response

1. *All correspondence or communication with any external party or their representatives relating to the issue of coordinated Junior Doctor Training between November 2022 until now which did not include STONZ;*

We have not had any communication with any external party or representative relating to the topic of coordinated Junior Doctor Training. This part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act on the basis that it does not exist.

2. *Any notes or agenda for any meeting with any external party at which the issue of coordinated Junior Doctor Training was intended to be, or was in fact, discussed.*

We do not have any notes or agenda relating to the topic of coordinating Junior Doctor Training, and again refuse this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act.

3. *If you have any information covered by this request but which is not provided, please identify the type of information and the reason for refusing to release the same.*

We have also canvassed our National Chief Medical Officer group and medical workforce teams, and are satisfied, on the basis of these responses, that no meeting with external parties has occurred on the topic of coordinating Junior Doctor training.

To our knowledge the only forum where the topic of Junior Doctor training was raised in the context of a nationally coordinated approach was the joint STONZ, NZRDA and Te Whatu Ora workshop on 8 March.

Accordingly, we have no knowledge of what process the quote attributed to Dr Powell refers to.

We are at the early stages of the concept of what a national RMO Support framework could look like to support our local teams within the broader changes Te Whatu Ora is undertaking. We will engage with the unions and our RMO units across the motu as work on these progresses.

I hope this satisfies your request.

How to get in touch

If you have any questions, you can contact us at h.nzOIA@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 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.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Dan Pallister-Coward
Regional Director Hospital and Specialist Services
Te Waipounamu