

24 August 2020



Dear 

**Re: OIA request – Information about dietitians**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 24 July 2020 seeking information regarding dietitians from Waitematā DHB.

Before responding to your specific questions, it may be useful to provide some context about our services.

Waitematā DHB serves a population of more than 630,000 across the North Shore, Waitakere and Rodney areas, the largest and one of the most rapidly growing DHBs in the country. We are the largest employer in the district, employing around 8,500 people across more than 80 locations.

In addition to providing services to our own population, we are also the metropolitan Auckland provider of forensic psychiatry, child disability services, child community dental services and community alcohol and drug services.

In response to your request, we are able to provide the following information:

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

As at 27 July 2020, there were 59 dietitians at Waitematā DHB.

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

Dietitian Grade	Count
3	4
4	9
5	4
6	[s.9(2)(a)]
7	14
8	9
9	4
10	[s.9(2)(a)]
11	4

12	[s.9(2)(a)]
13	[s.9(2)(a)]

Information for categories with fewer than three (3) individuals have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 on the basis that withholding the information is necessary to protect the privacy of the employee.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to seek a review is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz)

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

- a. Total budget for 2018 and 2019 financial years**
- b. Total spend for 2018 and 2019 financial years**
- c. A breakdown of**
  - i. Spend on training**
  - ii. Spend on all other professional development.**

Dietiticians staff have access to the DHB's Professional Development Fund for personal professional development/education. The figures provided below cover all amounts paid to dietiticians for training and related study leave, professional costs and memberships.

<b>Financial year</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
<b>Budget</b>	\$43,343	\$57,801
<b>Actual</b>	\$37,577	\$42,157
<b>Spend on training</b>	\$14,667	\$7,907
<b>Other professional development</b>	\$22,910	\$34,250

I trust that this information is helpful.

Waitematā DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publicly funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released.

If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider your views.

Yours sincerely



**Fiona McCarthy**  
**Director Human Resources**  
**Waitematā District Health Board**