

16 May 2019

Gloria Fraser
fyi-request-10144-71bcf16c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Gloria

Response to a request for official information

Thank you for your request for official information received 16 April 2019 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹ where you seek the following information:

***Could you please advise how many transgender people received each of the following services, specifically for gender-affirming healthcare purposes, within the 2018 calendar year?
Puberty blockers, Hormone therapy, Mastectomy, Hysterectomy, Orchidectomy, Facial hair removal, Breast augmentation, Voice training, Facial feminization surgery.***

Data for Puberty blockers and Hormone therapy is not available in a retrievable form that identifies how many people received the services and, as such, NMH declines to respond for this aspect of your request under section 18(e) of the Act in *'that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist'*.

Due to low numbers of people receiving gender affirming healthcare services, as outlined in Table 1, NMH declines to release exact numbers under Section 9(2)(a) *'to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons'*. In the circumstances, the withholding of that information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available.

Table 1

Mastectomy	<5*
Hysterectomy	<5*
Orchidectomy	0
Facial hair removal	0
Breast augmentation	0
Voice training	<5*
Facial feminization surgery	0

*The exact number is withheld to maintain the privacy of natural persons.

This response has been provided under the Official Information Act 1982. You have the right to seek an investigation by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or free phone 0800 802 602.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

If you have any questions about this decision please feel free to email our OIA Coordinator OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz

Please note that this letter (with your personal information removed), or an edited version of this letter, may be published on the Nelson Marlborough Health website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'P' followed by a long horizontal stroke that loops back under itself.

Dr Peter Bramley
Chief Executive

cc: Ministry of Health via email: SectorOIAs@moh.govt.nz