

26 June 2019

Brodie Fraser

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Dear Brodie

**Subject: Official Information Act request Re: transgender services**

Thank you for your request for information under the Official Information Act transferred from the Ministry of Health and received by Lakes DHB on 20 June 2019. You have asked:

1. *How many, if any, surgeons in New Zealand perform sex reassignment surgery?*
2. *What, if any, types of sex reassignment surgery are performed in New Zealand, and what, if any, types are only performed overseas?*
3. *If there is any sex reassignment surgeries performed overseas, does the ministry intend to bring these services to New Zealand?*
4. *How many, if any, transgender individuals have been referred to endocrine services in New Zealand in the past five years, broken down by year?*
5. *How many, if any, transgender individuals have been referred to endocrine services in New Zealand in the past five years, broken down by DHB?*
6. *What, if any, is the size of the current waiting list for Male to Female surgeries?*
7. *What, if any, is the size of the current waiting list for Female to Male surgeries?*
8. *How long does the ministry anticipate it would take for everyone currently on the Male to Female waiting list to be seen?*
9. *How long does the ministry anticipate it would take for everyone currently on the Female to Male waiting list to be seen?*

No sex reassignment surgery is undertaken at Lake DHB hospitals, we are therefore unable to answer questions 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9.

**Question 5**

*How many, if any, transgender individuals have been referred to endocrine services in New Zealand in the past five years, broken down by DHB?*

**Response:**

Lakes DHB has traditionally not coded the reason for referral to specialist clinics therefore there is limited information available. We acknowledge that there may be other referrals that have not been coded and we are unable to identify as transgender.

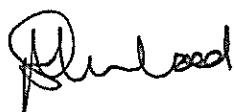
The following number of referrals has been identified with the reason for referral to be seen in the Lakes DHB Endocrinology clinics as transgender.

As the numbers are very small, Lakes DHB is not releasing the exact numbers, pursuant to clause 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act as this would risk the possibility of people being identified in a small community.

Year	Number
2017	<5
2018	<5
2019	5

Please note we may publish this letter and enclosed documents (with your personal information removed) on Lakes DHB's website.

Yours sincerely



Nick Saville-Wood  
**Chief Executive**

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