

19 June 2020

Amy S Van Wey Lovatt

By email: fyi-request-12927-29e53c9c@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H202003925

Dear Ms Van Wey Lovatt

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 30 May 2020 for:

*"Publication of all DHB Policies, Protocols and Best Practice Documents
Request 1:*

Would you please provide me with the MoH's requirements for DHBs in regards to publication of and access by the public to DHB policies regarding access to and protection of their health information.

Request 2:

I respectfully request that the MoH make a formal declaration to all DHB's that they must publish ALL of their policies, protocols and best practice documents on their websites, as well as all accreditation documentation."

In response to the first part of your request, regarding the district health boards' (DHB) legislative requirements, Operational Policy Framework (OPF) is a schedule to the DHB Crown Funding Agreement. The OPF sets out the legislative requirements, business rules, policies and guideline principles for the DHBs. Please be advised, there is no requirement for the DHBs to publish their health information policies.

The 2019/20 OPF is publicly available: <https://nsfl.health.govt.nz/accountability/operational-policy-framework-0/operational-policy-framework-201920>. For this reason, this part of your request is refused under section 18(d) of the Act.

As per section 2 of the Act, the second part of your request where you have asked the Ministry to make a formal declaration to the DHBs to publish their policies, does not constitute a request for official information.

You have the right, under section 28 of the Act, to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Yours sincerely



Michelle Arrowsmith
Deputy Director-General
DHB Performance, Support and Improvement