

Criminal enforcement and investigations

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Criminal enforcement and investigations are undertaken across three business units within the Ministry of Health, depending on the type of offences and the nature of the investigation.

Enforcement Unit

The Enforcement Unit is situated in Health Legal within the Protection Regulation and Assurance Business Unit.

The Enforcement Unit investigates breaches of legislation administered by the Ministry including:

- Smoke-free Environments Act 1990.
- Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.
- Health Act 1956; and
- Human Tissue Act 2008.

The Ministry's Enforcement Unit also investigates breaches of legislation administered by other Government departments where there are public health implications. This includes investigations under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.

The Ministry's Enforcement Unit also provides advice to inform the development of policy and operational aspects of legislation administered by the Ministry of Health and works closely with Public Health Units.

Medsafe

Medsafe (the New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority) operates within the Protection Regulation and Assurance Business Unit.

Medsafe is responsible for administering most aspects of the Medicines Act 1981 and its associated regulations including investigations into breaches of the Medicines Act 1981.

Audit and Compliance

Audit and Compliance operates within Protection Regulation and Assurance Business Unit. Audit and Compliance conduct audits and investigates fraud and risk in respect of payments made to the health sector through Sector Services.

Contact

healthlegalexecutiveassistant@health.govt.nz

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