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10 February 2025

Di Landy

By email: [fyi-request-29834-b2637f96@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-29834-b2637f96@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
Ref: H2025059428

Tēnā koe Di

### 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 – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on 22 January 2025. You requested:

*“Please may I know who the panel, consultants, specialists, and clinicians that are reviewing Puberty Blockers in NZ. Their names, qualifications and the organisations they work for.”*

I have interpreted your request as querying who is leading the Ministry’s work related to the prescribing of puberty blockers in gender-affirming care. The Ministry undertook consultation on the prescribing of puberty blockers on behalf of the Minister of Health. The Ministry’s work is being co-led by myself as Associate Deputy Director-General, Strategy, Policy and Legislation, and Dr Joe Bourne, the Ministry’s Chief Medical Officer, representing both policy and medical expertise. Information about Dr Bourne is available at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-us/organisation-and-leadership/chief-clinical-officers](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-us/organisation-and-leadership/chief-clinical-officers).

You will be aware that the Ministry also recently published an evidence brief and position statement. That work was also led by Dr Bourne in partnership with the office of the Ministry’s Chief Science Advisor, Professor Ian Town who holds the qualifications MBChB, DM, FRACP.

The position statement and evidence brief can be viewed here at the following links:

- [www.health.govt.nz/publications/position-statement-on-the-use-of-puberty-blockers-in-gender-affirming-care](http://www.health.govt.nz/publications/position-statement-on-the-use-of-puberty-blockers-in-gender-affirming-care).
- [www.health.govt.nz/publications/impact-of-puberty-blockers-in-gender-dysphoric-adolescents-an-evidence-brief](http://www.health.govt.nz/publications/impact-of-puberty-blockers-in-gender-dysphoric-adolescents-an-evidence-brief).

I trust this information fulfils your request. If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: [oiagr@health.govt.nz](mailto:oiagr@health.govt.nz).

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Barnes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'S' at the beginning.

Steve Barnes  
**Associate Deputy Director-General  
Strategy, Policy and Legislation**