



Office of Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman

Minister of Health
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Member of Parliament for Northcote

02 JUN 2017

Aaron
Fyi-requests-5776-e17e61cc@requests.fyi.or.nz

Ref: H201701657

Response to your request for official information

Dear Aaron

Thank you for your request of 9 May 2017 under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) requesting:

“the current budget’s allocation to gender reassignment surgeries, secondary surgeries, ongoing treatments (ie hormonal treatments). I would also like any other associated costs, such as psychological services provided. I am requesting the dollar figures, the number of funded surgeries are available, there is no mention of cost.”

The information relating to this request is itemised in the table below, we have broken your request down in to three parts:

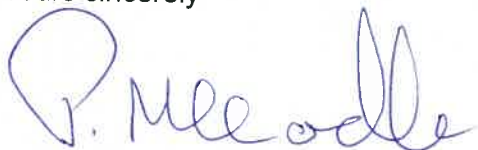
- 1. Information relating to the current budget’s allocation to gender reassignment surgeries*
- 2. Information relating to secondary surgeries, ongoing treatments (ie hormonal treatments). I would also like any other associated costs, such as psychological services provided.*
- 3. A request for the dollar figures, the number of funded surgeries are available.*

	Question	Response
1	Information relating to the current budget’s allocation to gender reassignment surgeries.	The Ministry funds gender reassignment surgeries, but there is no specific budget allocation for individuals, these surgeries are funded out of the general Special High Cost Treatment Pool budget, which is \$2.458 million per annum in total.
2	Information relating to secondary surgeries, ongoing treatments (ie hormonal treatments). I would also like any other associated costs, such as psychological services provided.	With regard to secondary surgeries, hormone treatment and psychological services, these are provided by district health boards. You would have to contact them directly in order to obtain further information about their provision. In order to help you, below is the link to a submission from the Ministry of Health to the Parliamentary Health Committee in December 2015, which includes the

		results of a stocktake of district health board gender reassignment services that was undertaken in October 2015. www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/51SCHE_EVI_50DBHOH_PET3202_1_A464088/ministry-of-health-sup3
3	A request for the dollar figures, the number of funded surgeries are available.	As advised in question one, these surgeries are funded out of the much larger general Special High Cost Treatment Pool budget and funds are always available for the identified number of gender reassignment surgeries. The cost of male to female surgeries have been around \$35,000 - \$40,000. For female to male surgeries it can be as much as \$180,000.

I trust this information fulfils your request. You have the right, under section 28 of the Act, to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold information under this request.

Yours sincerely



Peter McCardle
Senior Ministerial Advisor
Office of Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman