

Ms Katherine Raue
by email: fyi-request-8001-ac4b9ce5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: H201804206

Dear Ms Raue

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request of 7 June 2018 under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) for

- a. 'We request all information regarding interaction between the MOH and its subsidiaries (DHBs, etc) and an organisation calling themselves "Nga Hau E Wha" or "NHEW".
- b. To avoid confusion with the large number of nebulous orgs using this name, we refer to the org using the website "<http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=5305&d=neiY2-okNOy0Q-zQtbFcbYDztHiucUu2pa4HnfxWrg&u=http%3a%2f%2fnhew%2eorg%2enz>". During previous discussions with Vicki Blake of the Ministry we made a formal complaint regarding one of the profiles on this website which infers that one of the representatives of this org has around 20 years' experience as a "clinician", when it has been confirmed by the head of the org, Victoria Roberts, that the person is not and has never been a clinician. What is the definition of the term "clinician" as recognised by the Ministry, and in the context of the current legislation (such as the Mental Health Act and the Criminal Proceedings Mentally Impaired Persons Act) - which refers to, and grants considerable unbridled power, to "Responsible Clinicians", including the power to detain persons (such as Ashley Peacock, and myself) indefinitely and arbitrarily despite overwhelming and damning evidence that such action is unethical, unacceptable and unjust?
- c. Vicki Blake indicated that Nga Hau E Wha is "not a legal entity" but that the Ministry have provided them with funding. What is the Ministry's policy on funding non legal entities?
- d. How much funding has been provided to this organisation through the Ministry, directly or indirectly through various DHBs, etc?
- e. Vicki Blake stated that a letter had been sent to NHEW regarding the claims made in the profile on the website (at the link <http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=5305&d=neiY2-okNOy0QzQtbFcbYDztHiucUu2pawBnv8HrA&u=http%3a%2f%2fnhew%2eor>

g%2enz%2ftuis-profile%2html%29 that this person has 20 years' experience "working in Mental Health . . . as a clinician and project manager" when these claims are clearly untrue and highly misleading. We request a copy of that letter and all other correspondence and other information regarding these matters.

This request is URGENT because of the possible harm caused to vulnerable people on the basis of the untrue claims, and the allocation of available funding to such flawed initiatives. It is also URGENT because we have become aware of two letters to the Prime Minister which contain gross inaccuracies and false claims, these letters are from NHEW, and the actions of NHEW are preventing and hindering a number of people from making submissions to the current mental health inquiry.'

Given your reference to your formal complaint and discussions with Vicki Blake, the Ministry has interpreted your request (regarding funding) to cover the most recent financial year from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 and to information in relation to services procured by the Ministry for that period. The information relating to this request is itemised below, with copies of documents attached.

Nha Hau E Wha is a National New Zealand Mental Health and Addictions consumer leadership advisory group.

The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) has recently held a contract with the Mental Health Advocacy Peer Supports Trust (MHAPS) to provide co-ordination of quarterly meetings for Nga Hau E Wha. Nga Hau E Wha provide information from a mental health and addiction consumer perspective to the Ministry via this process.

| Request | Response |
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| <p>a. We request all information regarding interaction between the MOH and its subsidiaries (DHBs, etc) and an organisation calling themselves "Nga Hau E Wha" or "NHEW".</p> | <p>a. Correspondence between the Ministry and Nga Hau E Wha is attached as appendix one. Some information is being withheld under the Act [section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons]</p> <p>The Ministry cannot provide correspondence between the District Health Boards (DHBs) and Nga Hau E Wha as we do not hold this information. Therefore this part of your request is refused under Section 18(e) of the Act (the information does not exist within the Ministry).</p> |
| <p>b. To avoid confusion with the large number of nebulous orgs using this</p> | <p>b. The Ministry is aware that the term <i>clinician</i> is used in several pieces of</p> |

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| <p>name, we refer to the org using the website "http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=5305&d=neiY2-okNOy0Q-zQtbFcbYDztHiucUu2pa4HnfxWrg&u=http%3a%2f%2fnhew%2eorg%2enz". During previous discussions with Vicki Blake of the Ministry we made a formal complaint regarding one of the profiles on this website which infers that one of the representatives of this org has around 20 years experience as a "clinician", when it has been confirmed by the head of the org, Victoria Roberts, that the person is not and has never been a clinician. What is the definition of the term "clinician" as recognised by the Ministry, and in the context of the current legislation (such as the Mental Health Act and the Criminal Proceedings Mentally Impaired Persons Act) - which refers to, and grants considerable unbridled power, to "Responsible Clinicians", including the power to detain persons (such as Ashley Peacock, and myself) indefinitely and arbitrarily despite overwhelming and damning evidence that such action is unethical, unacceptable and unjust?</p> | <p>legislation but is only defined in the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992. Accordingly, the use of the term in the other legislation and in other contexts carries its ordinary meaning, being - a doctor (registered medical practitioner) having direct contact with patients.</p> <p>The Ministry is also aware that the person (Ms Taurua) who it contacted in respect of their profile on the Nga Hau E Wha website, is no longer using the term <i>clinician</i> on that site.</p> |
| <p>c. Vicki Blake indicated that Nga Hau E Wha is "not a legal entity" but that the Ministry have provided them with funding. What is the Ministry's policy on funding non legal entities?</p> | <p>c. The Ministry does not hold a contract with Nga Hau E Wha.</p> <p>The Ministry held a contract with Mental Health Advocacy Peer Supports Trust (MHAPS) to provide the management and coordination of quarterly meetings for Nga Hau E Wha.</p> |
| <p>d. How much funding has been provided to this organisation through the Ministry, directly or indirectly through various DHBs, etc?</p> | <p>d. From 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 the Ministry had a contract with MHAPS for \$48,000 to provide the management and coordination of quarterly meeting for Nga Hau E Wha.</p> |
| <p>e. Vicki Blake stated that a letter had</p> | <p>e. A copy of the letter sent by the</p> |

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| <p>been sent to NHEW regarding the claims made in the profile on the website (at the link http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=5305&d=neiY2-okNOy0QzQtbfcbYDztHiucUu2pawBnv8HrA&u=http%3a%2f%2fnhew%2eorg%2enz%2ftuis-profile%2html%29 that this person has 20 years' experience "working in Mental Health . . . as a clinician and project manager" when these claims are clearly untrue and highly misleading. We request a copy of that letter and all other correspondence and other information regarding these matters.</p> | <p>Ministry to a member of Nga Hau E Wha is attached as appendix two</p> |
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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 refuse and withhold information under this request.

Yours sincerely



Jill Lane
Director
Service Commissioning