

15 May 2019

Gloria Fraser

Email: [fyi-request-10089-2e0a0516@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-10089-2e0a0516@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Gloria

**Official information request W19-332**

I refer to your official information request dated 12 April 2019.

**Request:**

Could you please advise whether the following gender-affirming healthcare services are funded by the Wairarapa District Health Board for transgender patients, and whether the services are currently available:

- Puberty blockers
- Hormone therapy
- Mastectomy
- Hysterectomy
- Orchidectomy
- Facial hair removal
- Breast augmentation
- Voice training
- Facial feminization surgery

Could you please also advise:

- Are transgender healthcare providers under the Wairarapa District Health Board encouraged to follow Oliphant et al's (2018) Guidelines for gender affirming healthcare for gender diverse and transgender children, young people and adults in Aotearoa New Zealand? If not, which guidelines do they follow, if any?
- Is a readiness assessment required to access gender-affirming healthcare services? (This is an assessment of readiness for treatment from a medical and psychosocial perspective, as well as whether the client understands the risks and benefits of treatment, and is sometimes referred to as a 'mental health assessment').
- If a readiness assessment is required to access gender-affirming healthcare services, who carries out this assessment? Is this assessment funded by the Wairarapa District Health Board? Does the assessment use an informed consent model?
- What steps is the Wairarapa District Health Board taking to improve healthcare provision for transgender New Zealanders?

**Response:**

Your OIA request, W19-332, is very similar in nature to a previous request Wairarapa District Health Board responded to last year.

Wairarapa DHB refers services of this nature to our neighbouring DHB's and we have nothing further to add to the previous response, which you can find on our website [HERE](#).

Should you require anything further to aid you in your enquiry, you are welcome to be in touch with me directly by email [communications@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz](mailto:communications@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz).

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Wairarapa District Health Board website no less than one week after the response has been provided to you. Any personal or identifying information will be redacted from any response published online. The DHB will endeavour to resolve any concerns you should raise but, subject to any legal grounds for withholding, ultimately reserves the right to publish any information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact:

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Yours sincerely



Anna Cardno  
**Communications Manager**