

10 September 2019

Claudia

By email: [fyi-request-10481-fc172b85@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-10481-fc172b85@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Claudia

**Re: Official Information Act request – Clinical Coding Contracts**

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 24 August 2019 requesting the following information:

- 1. ADHB has awarded Clinical Coding contracts without inviting tenders. Local New Zealand and overseas companies were not given an opportunity to compete for the contract. How were these specific companies picked, for example by recommendation, Yellow Pages or Google search, etc.?**

There are limited clinical coding resources in NZ which were at the time embedded in the DHBs. Therefore, it was decided to focus on a selection of Australian companies who use the same approach to clinical coding and cover a similar casemix with the clinical coding expertise available within the company. The selection was based on recommendation, availability, and detailed requirements discussion.

- 2. When were the Australian company in New Zealand given the contracts dates? What are the names of these companies?**

Matthews Health Coding Solutions – May 2018; iMedx Australia – June 2018; 3C Systems – Jan 2019

- 3. Please list ALL countries outside New Zealand from where patient records have accessed by Clinical Coders since January 2019.**

Australia.

4. How many permanent full time employees from the ADHB Clinical coding department work for (directly or indirectly), and are remunerated by the contracted companies?

One.

I trust this information answers your questions.

You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE  
Chief Executive