

1 December 2020

Sara Passmore

By email: fyi-request-14115-dc638b68@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: H202008172

Dear Sara Passmore

Response to request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 12 November 2020 for:

"1) The percentage of annual funding for hospital chaplaincy services that goes to the Interchurch Council for Hospital Chaplaincy, also known as the ICHC (ie. of the \$x amount of funding provided for hospital chaplaincy services, y% goes to the ICHC).

2) What organisations that provide chaplaincy services in hospitals receive funding from the MoH for providing hospital chaplains.

3) The total amount of funding provided by the MoH in the last financial year for hospital chaplaincy services."

The Interchurch Council of Hospital Chaplaincy (ICHC) is funded through a mix of sources including district health boards, local churches and the Ministry of Health (the Ministry). The Ministry's contribution funds approximately 23 FTEs each year.

Chaplains work as part of multi-disciplinary teams to offer pastoral, spiritual, and religious care to hospital patients and their whānau regardless of their religious denomination, faith orientation, belief system, ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation. Further information about the chaplaincy services can be found here: www.ichc.org.nz.

Information in response to each part of your request is outlined below.

"1) The percentage of annual funding for hospital chaplaincy services that goes to the Interchurch Council for Hospital Chaplaincy, also known as the ICHC (ie. of the \$x amount of funding provided for hospital chaplaincy services, y% goes to the ICHC)."

The percentage of the Ministry's annual funding for chaplaincy services allocated to ICHC is 94.7 per cent. Please refer to Question 3 for the total amount.

"2) What organisations that provide chaplaincy services in hospitals receive funding from the MoH for providing hospital chaplains."

The Ministry funds ICHC and Te Whare Ruruhau o Meri Trust for chaplaincy services.

"3) The total amount of funding provided by the MoH in the last financial year for hospital chaplaincy services."

The amount of funding for hospital chaplaincy services in the 2019/20 financial year was \$3,599,071 excl GST.

I trust this information fulfils your request. 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 or by calling 0800 802 602.

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

Yours sincerely



Toni Gutschlag
Acting Deputy Director-General
Mental Health and Addiction