

20 April 2022

By email: fyi-request-18614-08ca5746@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Kelly

I refer to your Official Information Act request – OIA 1165 – Auckland DHB Doctors Payroll Information transferred to us by the Ministry of Health on 3 March requesting the following information:

Once upon a time I lived in Canberra and I was fortunate to have the opportunity to have psycho-dynamically oriented psychotherapy with a psychiatrist in private practice.

Before I embarked on work with him I googled him to check there wasn't a pattern of serious allegations against him or anything problematic like that. I was initially surprised to find payroll information from the Canberra Hospital. Then I realized that he worked part time in private and part time in public practice. The payroll information was publicly available (accessible on the internet) because it was public practice.

The information listed all Clinical employees. Their full name. The capacity they were hired in (e.g., Consultant Psychiatrist). The FTE of the position. The gross amount that they were paid (that was associated with the FTE of the position).

I would like to see this information from the Auckland District Health Board (ADHB).

Why?

I am trying to understand what is going on with Psychiatry (in the first instance) in Auckland. I am trying to get a handle on whether there are ample Psychiatrists on payroll (but they are trained never to set foot on the hospital -- like how Otago wanted to train students to get signed off on their workplace internship without attendance) or whether there aren't ample Psychiatrists on payroll (where they are getting 5th year medical students or building apprentices to pass themselves off as consultants while they pay the University for their work experience in the hospital). Or, more likely, see the sort of ratios.

As well as the Clinical staff. I would also like to know about the non-clinical staff. The administration and management, particularly.

I suppose I want to see where the payroll money goes so I can understand what's going on with where the money goes in the Hospital. Or if the idea is that Ailsa Claire gives most of the money back (unspent) and it's on that understanding that she gets to keep her job with the payroll she apparently gets...

I know that was a bit long but I am trying to provide the context for my question and reassurance that this is a question about public information that should be readily available or accessible to people who manage the payroll and hirings etc.

- **ALL Clinical staff (doctors).**
- **Nonclinical management / administration**

On 23 February the Ministry of Health on our behalf asked you to clarify exactly what information you were requesting.

You responded saying:

The title should help you focus:

ADHB doctors payroll information

Response

Your request is unclear and your response did not assist in clarifying your request. We have considered whether charging or extending the timeframe for responding to your request would assist us in managing this issue, and have concluded it would not. We have, therefore, determined to refuse your request under Section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

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 <https://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 sincerely



Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive