

14 August 2024

Luke

**Email:** [fyi-request-26318-1478d83a@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-26318-1478d83a@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Luke

## **Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request**

The Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC) received the partial transfer of your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request from the Ministry of Health on 29 July 2024. On 2 August 2024, you clarified by email that you would like data for the five years covering 1 July 2019 to 31 June 2024.

In responding to your request, we have used the question number as indicated to order our responses.

- **Question 1:** *Can you please provide a funding breakdown for the research into, and treatment of, the following cancers each year for the past five years?*
  - a) *Breast cancer;*
  - b) *Prostate cancer;*
  - c) *Melanoma;*
  - d) *Lung cancer; and*
  - e) *Bowel cancer.*

**Question 1:** The HRC can provide the amount of **HRC funding awarded** to **research** into each of the five cancers listed between 1 July 2019 to 31 June 2024. Please note, we are the government's principal funder of health research, however this does not represent total research investment on these cancers as there are other government and non-government funding agencies investing in cancer research. Further, the HRC is not the agency responsible for and does not hold any information regarding the funding of treatment.

Appended to this letter is a spreadsheet which provides a breakdown of the **HRC funding awarded** to the specified cancers for the five years, 1 July 2019 to 31 June 2024. A summary of the total number of funded contracts and total budget awarded to each cancer is provided below.

- a) Breast cancer: 25 contracts with a total combined value of \$6,301,787.70
- b) Prostate cancer: 4 contracts with a total combined value of \$545,820.00
- c) Melanoma: 7 contracts with a total combined value of \$3,552,769.84
- d) Lung cancer: 17 contracts with a total combined value of \$19,181,876.08
- e) Bowel cancer: 4 contracts with a total combined value of \$1,120,917.35

- **Question 2:** *Can you also provide data on the number of people being treated for each cancer each year for the last five years, broken down by gender and ethnicity?"*

**Question 2:** The HRC is not the agency responsible for treatment and does not hold any information regarding the number of people being treated for each cancer each year for the last five years, broken down by gender and ethnicity.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Kind regards

**Professor Sunny Collings**  
Chief Executive