

23 February 2018

Jem Traylen

Email: <mailto:fyi-request-7184-bbb41697@requests.fyi.org.nz>

Dear Mx Traylen

### Official Information Act (1982) Request

I write in response to your Official Information Act request dated 15 February 2018, that was a follow-up question to our response on 7 February. You requested the following information:

- ***Any readily available papers or spreadsheets analysing the true total costs of providing these surgeries would be extremely helpful to our research. Please provide whatever information you can quickly collate, as time is of the essence, given where we are in the planning cycle for Budget 2018/19.***

In response, we need to re-iterate that CM Health is not performing gender reassignment surgeries at this time. Because this type of surgery is not presently performed in New Zealand, the Ministry of Health manages arrangements with overseas providers for all of New Zealand. CM Health has in the past applied for funding from the Ministry of Health's high cost treatment pool to enable patients to travel overseas for genital gender reassignment surgery.

Should a decision be made nationally at a future date to provide this surgery in New Zealand, the DHB will work with the Ministry of Health to ensure there is equitable access to a service for our population. However, at this time we have not completed any analysis or costing information.

I trust this satisfactorily answers your request.

Yours sincerely



Gloria Johnson  
**Chief Executive (Acting)**