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27 March 2019

Nigel Gray

By email: fyi-request-9654-353ae394@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H201900990

Dear Nigel

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 1 March 2019 for:

“Could you please inform me of the actual overall cost per patient and the number of New Zealanders currently under treatment by the Mental Health Compulsory Treatment and Assessment Act 1992, including both those in institutions (hospitals and Mental Health facilities) and those under the Act being held or supervised in community housing situations? Also could you provide me with the overall (total) cost of this, including the salaries of placement officials, healthcare professionals, social welfare workers associated with caring for these individuals, psychologists, psychiatrists, court judges (for each 6 monthly hearing required under the law and per the requirements of the Act?”

The information you have requested is not held by or recorded by the Ministry of Health (the Ministry), however, the Office of the Director of Mental Health annual reports may provide some information in relation to your request. The report presents information on compulsory assessments and/or treatments under the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992, as well as statistics that serve as indicators of quality for mental health services. You can find the reports publicly available from the Ministry’s website: <https://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/corporate-publications/mental-health-annual-reports>.

As the Ministry does not hold the information you have requested and has no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department, I have decided to refuse your request under section 18(g) of the Act.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robyn Shearer', is written over the printed name.

Robyn Shearer

Deputy Director-General

Mental Health and Addiction