

13 February 2019

**Official information Request: HVDHB H18\_19-82 including the transfers from the CCDHB and WRDHB, OIA 2019/001 and W19-288 respectively.**

Thank you for your email dated 7 January 2019 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982, your request is repeated below for completeness.

*“Could you please facilitate a response for information under the Official Information Act concerning the DHB's alcohol harm reduction activities for the financial year 2017/18 namely:*

- \* Public Health regulatory activity related to alcohol*
- \* Involvement with policy development with each Council within your DHB area*
- \* The costs incurred in preparing each submission submitted to central and local government on alcohol issues*
- \* The amount spent on advocacy to central and local government on alcohol issues*
- \* What 'community action' has been taken to reduce alcohol harm, which community groups the DHB has worked with, the amount of financial assistance provided to each community group*
- \* What steps have been taken to promote community awareness, the campaigns that have been co-ordinated and the cost of each campaign*
- \* The number of staff employed/contracted and the salaries paid to employees and payments made to contractors to the DHB who are tasked with alcohol related public health regulatory activity, policy development, submissions and advocacy, encouraging community action and promoting community awareness*
- \* The submissions made to Councils within your DHB area on alcohol licensing applications for all on-license, off-license, club and special event licenses and the cost incurred in doing so”*

The response has been compiled by Regional Public Health (RPH) which is a service of Hutt Valley District Health Board. As a service RPH completes alcohol regulatory activity for the three District Health Boards in the greater Wellington region, accordingly this response covers the requests made to Wairarapa, Hutt Valley and Capital & Coast District Health Boards.

The information pertaining to your request is below.

**Question 1:**

*“Public Health regulatory activity related to alcohol”*

**Answer:**

The Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (the Act) requires us to undertake:

- For On and Off Licences we must inquire into the application and if there are matters in opposition we file a report to the District Licensing Committee (DLC) within fifteen working days of receipt of the application.
- For Special Licence applications we may inquire into the application, and may file with the DLC within fifteen working days of receipt.
- Gather information and present evidence at DLC’s, Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority (ARLA) and higher courts as required.
- We collaborate with the licensing agencies responsible for the Act namely the Police and Council Licensing Inspectors. This may include monitoring events and licenced premises.
- Participate in Police led Controlled Purchase Operations to check compliance with the Act.

**Question 2:**

*“Involvement with policy development with each Council within your DHB area”*

**Answer:**

There are eight Councils within the greater Wellington region that RPH service. Wellington City, Kapiti Coast, Porirua City , Upper Hutt City , Hutt City, Carterton, Masterton and South Wairarapa District Councils.

RPH have not been involved in any alcohol specific policy development with any of the councils during this period.

The District Health Boards (DHBs) have not carried out submissions to our local Councils separately from the Public Health Unit.

**Question 3:**

*“The costs incurred in preparing each submission submitted to central and local government on alcohol issues”*

**Answer:**

We do not hold this information.

**Question 4:**

*“The amount spent on advocacy to central and local government on alcohol issues”*

**Answer:**

We do not hold this information.

**Question 5:**

*“What 'community action' has been taken to reduce alcohol harm, which community groups the DHB has worked with, the amount of financial assistance provided to each community group?”*

**Answer:**

RPH has been involved in the following community action during this period.

- Porirua Safer City Trust and Health Promotion Agency – Delay Drinking and Reducing Social Supply.
- Wainuiomata Rugby Football Club – Alcohol Policy
- Wairarapa Community Alcohol Action Group—Scoping Project to determine Alcohol Related Harm Priorities for Wairarapa
- Safer Hutt Valley—Alcohol Needs Assessment.

No financial assistance has been provided to these groups.

Wairarapa District Health Board:

Wairarapa District Health Board hosts the ‘What about you’ campaign which is an initiative of Wairarapa Community Alcohol Working Group. Members include:

- Wairarapa Road Safety Council
- Police
- Masterton District Council
- Carterton District Council
- South Wairarapa District Council
- Trust House
- Wairarapa DHB
- Compass Health Wairarapa
- Regional Public Health
- Te Hauora o Runanga
- Pathways
- Whaiora
- Wairarapa Safer Community Trust
- SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving)
- Accident Compensation Commission
- Sport Wellington Wairarapa
- Connecting Communities

Advisory members to the group include:

- Health Promotion Agency

During this period the group undertook planning for the campaign.

Wairarapa District Health Board did not provide any funding to the members of the working group.

Wairarapa DHB hosts the website for the project and provides, funds and manages the print and radio media for the campaign.

Capital Coast and Hutt Valley District Health Boards have no separate activity to disclose.

**Question 6:**

*“What steps have been taken to promote community awareness, the campaigns that have been co-ordinated and the cost of each campaign”*

**Answer:**

During this period RPH provided staff time and expertise to the following communities:

- ARO Valley Community in regards to the Patels Superette Ltd
- Newtown Community in regards to Liquor Hub Ltd
- Naenae Community members in regards to Seki Investments Ltd
- Te Aro Community members in regards to Compass Liquor (Liquorland Victoria Street)
- Otaki Community members in regards to Nikhil Himalaya Liquor Otaki Ltd (The Bottle O - Otaki Railway)
- Paekakariki Community members in regards to K J & N Crowther Ltd.

No financial assistance was given to these groups.

**Question 7:**

*“The number of staff employed/contracted and the salaries paid to employees and payments made to contractors to the DHB who are tasked with alcohol related public health regulatory activity, policy development, submissions and advocacy, encouraging community action and promoting community awareness”*

**Answer:**

The table below, taken from RPH’s 2017/18 Annual Report, outlines the FTE of staff associated with working only on alcohol harm reduction activities during the period.

	FTE	Cost
Alcohol and Other Drugs	6.83	\$931,242

RPH has not employed any contractors to assist with this work.

Legal representation was engaged on one occasion to represent RPH on a licence appeal during this period. The costs for that representation are withheld in terms of section 9(2)(h) of the Official Information Act 1982, “...maintain legal professional privilege; or...”.

**Question 8:**

*“The submissions made to Councils within your DHB area on alcohol licensing applications for all on-license, off-license, club and special event licenses and the cost incurred in doing so”*

**Answer:**

During the period RPH has made 17 written briefs of evidence and/or submissions to DLCs. The only costs involved are staff time which is included as part of the answer to Question 7.

These include:

Wellington District Licensing Committee:

- Capital Liquor Ltd
- General Distributors Ltd
- Indrajitkumar & Bhavina Patel
- Pravin & Dakshaben Patel
- Compass Liquor Ltd (Wellington)
- Challenge Ventures Limited
- Patel's Superette 2000 Ltd
- Liquor Hub Ltd

Porirua District Licensing Committee:

- 169 Firewater Ltd

Kapiti District Licensing Committee:

- Young Supermarkets Ltd
- Nikhil Himalaya Liquor Otaki Ltd
- Compass Liquor Ltd (Kapiti)
- K J & N Crowther Ltd

Hutt City District Licensing Committee:

- Dream Power Limited
- Seki Investments Limited
- Lower Hutt Liquormart Ltd
- Pravin Ranchhod