

2 November 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Official information request W18-256

I refer to your official information request dated 4 October 2018.

Request:

1. How many people were referred to the DHB for gender reassignment hormone therapy each year since 2006 until the present time?
2. How many were treated within the DHB and how many were referred to another DHB? If so, where?
3. What was the breakdown of ages in each of those years (youngest/ oldest/ median age)?
4. How many were transitioning male to female and how many female to male in each of those years?

Response:

The information you have requested is below.

To my knowledge, Wairarapa DHB has not had demand for the services you describe and is not involved in other aspects of transgender care, including surgical procedures and primary care healthcare.

As one of the country's smaller hospitals, Wairarapa DHB accesses specific services and tertiary care from larger centres. Many of the gender-affirming healthcare services you mention would require a multi-disciplinary team approach, led by specialists in neighbouring centres.

I understand that assessments are required, and for the greater Wellington region, including Wairarapa (referred to as 3DHB region), this is currently provided by a psychologist. Transgender hormonal treatment in the 3DHB region is currently initiated by an endocrinologist. Again, this is not provided at Wairarapa DHB. It is possible that hormonal therapy may be provided in the primary care setting in future.

Wairarapa DHB would refer patients to another DHB. Presuming the client's needs meet national criteria, funding would be managed under the usual IDF (Inter District Flow) arrangements.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Wairarapa District Health Board website no less than one week after the response has been provided to you. Any personal or identifying information will be redacted from any response published online. The DHB will endeavour to resolve any concerns you should raise but, subject to any legal grounds for withholding, ultimately reserves the right to publish any information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact:

Caroline van Deventer

Communications Administrator

Email: caroline.vanDeventer@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz

Ph: 06 946 9800, ext 5840

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a final flourish.

Adri Isbister

Chief Executive