

3 April 2019

Marie Daly
By email: fyi-request-9686-c6a7ea08@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: H201901252

Dear Ms Daly

Response to your request for official information

I refer to your request of 27 February 2019 under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) for:

“For each of the past three years ending June 2016, June 2017 and June 2018 what was the DHBs Rural Adjuster funding component of the PBFF funding pool?”

Under New Zealand’s devolved funding system, District Health Boards (DHBs) are bulk funded for the provision of services to their resident populations. DHBs bulk funding is allocated using the Population Based Funding Formula (PBFF), which aims to give each DHB a similar opportunity, in terms of health resources, to respond to the health needs of its population. The PBFF does not determine the overall level of funding DHBs receive, set service level expectations or require boards to expend specific amounts in any service area.

The PBFF takes each DHB’s resident population and factors in age, ethnicity, and deprivation to determine each DHB’s share of funding. There are three adjusters that are factored into the PBFF model, one of which is the rural adjuster. The rural adjuster is designed to compensate for the extra costs of providing services to small or dispersed communities.

As the model is used to derive each DHB’s total share of available funding, values related to component parts, as requested, are not available.

Therefore I have decided to refuse your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 because the information requested does not exist.

You have the right, under section 28 of the Act, to ask the Ombudsman to review my response to your request for information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Arrowsmith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "M".

Michelle Arrowsmith
Deputy Director-General
DHB Performance Support
and Infrastructure