

21 June 2019

Peter Willcox
Warkworth

Dear Peter

Official Information Act Request – Psychologists in inpatient mental health and which psychological services are funded

Under section 14 of the Official Information Act, the Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB) received a partial transfer of your request from the Ministry of Health. Questions 2A and 5 have been transferred to DHBs. You requested the following information:

- 2A. How many psychologists are in paid employment within the various DHB's inpatient mental health services?
5. What psychological services are funded by the Ministry of Health where a psychologist needs a masters level or higher qualification?

Whanganui District Health Board's response:

2A. How many psychologists are in paid employment within the various DHB's inpatient mental health services?

Whanganui DHB is a small DHB. We run an In-Reach service (i.e. there is no designated FTE for inpatient mental health – the psychologists employed in the community follow their clients through the inpatient mental health unit or if the client is new and requires a psychologist's service then a community based psychologist is involved.

Whanganui DHB employs 3.9 FTE (headcount of 4) psychologists in its community mental health team.

5. What psychological services are funded by the Ministry of Health where a psychologist needs a masters level or higher qualification?

The Ministry of Health does not fund according to qualification.

Whanganui DHB funds and employs registered clinical psychologists and that level is determined by the Psychologist Board.



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Via email: P.Willcox@icloud.com

Should you have any further queries, please contact, contact our acting OIA co-ordinator Maree Langford at Maree.Langford@wdhb.co.nz

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'R' followed by a horizontal line that tapers to the right.

Russell Simpson
Chief Executive