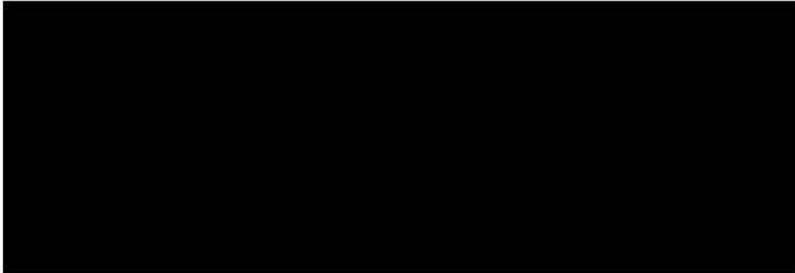


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9 April 2019



Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 12 March 2019 for:

- “1. Can you please advise, how much funding is provided for this scheme per year, by region?”*
- 2. Would appreciate the past three years and also clarification of the increase which has been in process.*
- 3. Do you have on record how many patients and supporters/carers received funding from this scheme, per year?*
- 4. Is it possible to advise, how many patients received the support, but elected to stay somewhere other than an accomodation facility affiliated with the Cancer Society?”*

Information held by the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) relating to your request is itemised in Appendix One.

I trust that this information fulfils your request. 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



Michelle Arrowsmith

Deputy Director-General

DHB Performance Support and Infrastructure

Appendix One

1. Can you please advise, how much funding is provided for this scheme per year, by region?

National Travel Assistance (NTA) funding is included within District Health Boards' (DHBs) devolved (bulk) funding and is not ring-fenced. The Ministry has visibility of what is paid out by DHBs on NTA claims processed through our payment system. However, not all NTA related costs go through the claims payment system; so the total amount of NTA paid does not equate to the information provided. The following table provides the DHB spend for NTA claims processed and paid by the Ministry's payment system for the requested dates:

DHB	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Grand Total
Auckland	\$1,507,370.36	\$1,605,159.79	\$1,799,630.67	\$1,321,541.36	\$6,233,702.18
Bay of Plenty	\$1,532,401.20	\$1,657,639.30	\$1,733,414.42	\$1,170,406.16	\$6,093,861.08
Canterbury	\$876,079.90	\$977,324.78	\$876,078.85	\$597,730.32	\$3,327,213.85
Capital and Coast	\$1,383,868.44	\$1,396,709.70	\$1,477,733.46	\$990,988.81	\$5,249,300.41
Counties Manukau	\$1,904,379.11	\$1,866,758.67	\$2,205,798.91	\$1,623,574.50	\$7,600,511.19
Hawkes Bay	\$2,073,370.94	\$1,930,145.36	\$2,124,143.08	\$1,499,097.40	\$7,626,756.78
Hutt Valley	\$1,156,954.56	\$1,318,497.59	\$1,342,530.71	\$920,385.69	\$4,738,368.55
Lakes	\$602,678.72	\$661,613.34	\$641,479.06	\$407,408.08	\$2,313,179.20
Mid-Central	\$1,654,980.54	\$1,563,449.27	\$1,386,306.65	\$1,231,190.24	\$5,835,926.70
Nelson Marlborough	\$3,517,466.45	\$3,592,393.56	\$3,631,740.12	\$2,749,603.30	\$13,491,203.43
Northland	\$2,519,824.12	\$2,253,213.39	\$2,261,725.81	\$1,644,519.17	\$8,679,282.49
South Canterbury	\$988,796.00	\$914,856.91	\$799,919.22	\$684,861.08	\$3,388,433.21
Southern	\$4,462,505.77	\$4,509,971.09	\$5,083,046.87	\$3,394,062.48	\$17,449,586.21
Tairāwhiti	\$1,744,277.66	\$1,856,551.88	\$2,640,506.47	\$1,862,655.31	\$8,103,991.32
Taranaki	\$1,105,946.33	\$1,062,545.08	\$1,117,028.84	\$817,504.16	\$4,103,024.41
Waikato	\$1,728,009.19	\$1,677,555.40	\$1,787,363.00	\$1,326,504.36	\$6,519,431.95
Wairarapa	\$494,717.11	\$504,905.90	\$486,164.80	\$292,735.39	\$1,778,523.20
Waitemata	\$1,489,719.89	\$1,644,900.13	\$1,743,508.15	\$1,494,552.76	\$6,372,680.93
Whanganui	\$864,383.69	\$818,866.82	\$925,880.26	\$560,043.84	\$3,169,174.61
West Coast	\$1,302,463.77	\$1,223,965.51	\$1,215,814.96	\$871,948.20	\$4,614,192.44
Grand Total	\$32,910,193.75	\$33,037,023.47	\$35,279,814.31	\$25,461,312.61	\$126,688,344.14

Note:

- The figures are based on Financial Year: 1 July – 30 June.
- Financial Year 2018-19 is as at 21 Mar 2019.
- The amounts are GST exclusive.

2. *Would appreciate the past three years and also clarification of the increase which has been in process.*

The NTA policy review has recommendations relating to the future investment however, these are not yet finalised.

3. *Do you have on record how many patients and supporters/carers received funding from this scheme, per year?*

The following table provides the approximate count of patients and supporters for the requested dates:

	Number of Patients	Number of Supporters
2015-16	30522	7463
2016-17	30097	7546
2017-18	30786	7768
2018-19	24264	6145

Note:

- The count is based on Financial Year: 1 July – 30 June.
- Financial Year 2018-19 is as at 21 Mar 2019.
- Supporter details are recorded on the patient's file. A patient can have multiple supporters at different events. Therefore, the patient and supporter figures provided are indicative.
- Support includes supporter and second supporter where possible.

4. *Is it possible to advise, how many patients received the support, BUT elected to stay somewhere other than an accommodation facility affiliated with the Cancer Society?*

This part of your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act, as the requested information is not held by the Ministry.