

# 2 1 JUN 2019

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#### Response to your request for official information

I refer to your letter received on 17 June 2019 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) for:

"Can the MOH please advise the salary which is paid to the chair and board members or would expect to receive on an annual basis. If the above varies between DHBs, please advise accordingly."

The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) interpreted your request to mean District Health Board (DHB) members and chief executives.

### Mechanism for setting fees

Sections 47 and 48 of the Crown Entities Act 2004 provide the mechanism for setting the remuneration and expenses for board members of District Health Boards (DHBs) under the Cabinet Fees Framework (the Fees Framework), which applies to DHB board members, and is administered by the State Services Commission. The fees framework is publicly available at the following address: <a href="https://www.dpmc.govt.nz/cabinet/circulars/co12/6">www.dpmc.govt.nz/cabinet/circulars/co12/6</a>.

The purpose of the Fees Framework is to provide a basis for judgement in setting fees that will:

- ensure a consistent approach to remuneration across all statutory and other Crown bodies;
- contain expenditure of public funds within reasonable limits;
- provide flexibility within clear criteria.

Further information relating to the Fees Framework can be accessed at the following addresses:

http://www.ssc.govt.nz/node/2264

https://dpmc.govt.nz/publications/co-12-6-fees-framework-members-appointed-bodies-which-crown-has-interest.

#### DHB Board Member Fees

The Minister of Health determines DHB board members' terms and conditions of office and their respective levels of remuneration in accordance with the Fees Framework. DHB Board members are paid an annual fee for their service. This fee level varies from DHB to DHB, depending on the size and complexity of the DHB. In general:

- board chairs are paid more than other members due to their larger role;
- deputy chairs are paid an additional 25 percent on top of their member fees.

Board members are paid an additional fee of up to \$2,500 per annum if they are a member of a statutory advisory committee. Members serving on certain other committees (e.g., audit, risk and finance committees) also receive an additional annual fee.

Members are also covered for reasonable expenses associated with board and committee business, such as travel costs.

The total value of remuneration paid to each board member is disclosed in the annual report of the DHB concerned. This is a requirement under section 152 of the Crown Entities Act 2004. This information is publicly available on each DHBs website.

Remuneration for each DHB board member is set out in Appendix One.

I trust that this information fulfils your request. You have the right, under section 28 of the Act, to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Yours sincerely

**Deputy Director-General** 

Office of the Director-General

## **Appendix One: Remuneration for DHB Board Members**

DHB	Chair	Deputy Chair	Member
Auckland	\$54,600	\$33,150	\$26,520
Bay of Plenty	\$46,200	\$28,050	\$22,440
Canterbury	\$54,600	\$33,150	\$26,520
Capital & Coast	\$61,000	\$31,875	\$25,500
Counties Manukau	\$52,500	\$31,875	\$25,500
Hawkes Bay	\$42,000	\$25,500	\$20,400
Hutt Valley	\$45,000	\$25,500	\$20,400
Lakes	\$37,800	\$22,950	\$18,360
Mid Central	\$46,200	\$28,050	\$22,440
Nelson Marlborough	\$40,950	\$24,862	\$19,890
Northland	\$44,100	\$26,775	\$21,420
South Canterbury	\$33,600	\$20,400	\$16,320
Southern <sup>1</sup>		-	-
Tairāwhiti	\$33,600	\$20,400	\$16,320
Taranaki	\$38,850	\$23,587	\$18,870
Waikato <sup>2</sup>	\$33,600	\$20,400	\$16,320
Wairarapa	\$33,600	\$20,400	\$16,320
Waitemata	\$52,500	\$31,875	\$25,500
West Coast	\$33,600	\$20,400	\$16,320
Whanganui	\$34,650	\$21,037	\$16,830

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  Southern DHB will return to having a full board following the 2019 DHB election process, currently there is a Commissioner in place.

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  Waikato DHB does not currently have a board as it has been replaced by the appointment of a Commissioner in May 2019.