

1 July 2020

Ken Orr
Right to Life

Via email: ken@righttolife.org.nz



100 Heads Road, Private Bag 3003
Whanganui 4540, New Zealand

Dear Ken

Official Information Act Request – OIA 12940 Further Information Regarding Abortions

On 29 May 2020, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

1. What were the reasons that your Board had for contracting out abortions to a Magnum Healthcare Ltd, a private company?
2. Was one of the reasons that some doctors and nurses employed by your Board were opposed to being involved in performing abortions?
3. How many women had abortions paid for by your Board and performed by the Magma Healthcare Ltd in 2018 and 2019?
4. How many women received pre abortion counselling provided by your Board in 2018 and 2019?
5. How many women received post abortion counselling provided by your Board in 2018 and 2019?
6. How many women who had abortions in 2018 and 2019 paid for by your Board had complications arising from their abortion recorded prior to their discharge?
7. How much money did Magma Healthcare Ltd receive from your Board for "abortion services" for 2018 and 2019?

Whanganui District Health Boards response:

1. What were the reasons that your Board had for contracting out abortions to a Magnum Healthcare Ltd, a private company?

The District Health Board patients had previously been travelling to Wellington to receive services from Capital and Coast District Health Board. It was not acceptable for our community to travel so far out of district for services and we chose to return them to a more local provider.

2. Was one of the reasons that some doctors and nurses employed by your Board were opposed to being involved in performing abortions?

No

3. How many women had abortions paid for by your Board and performed by the Magma Healthcare Ltd in 2018 and 2019?

Calendar year 2018 – 0

Calendar year 2019 – 71, the service was delivered from July to December 2019

4. How many women received pre abortion counselling provided by your Board in 2018 and 2019?

Calendar year 2018 – 83
Calendar year 2019 – 223

There was a change in counting protocols between these two years that contributes to the volume variation.

5. How many women received post abortion counselling provided by your Board in 2018 and 2019?

This information is not easily identifiable as post-termination counselling is included in total counselling volumes.

6. How many women who had abortions in 2018 and 2019 paid for by your Board had complications arising from their abortion recorded prior to their discharge?

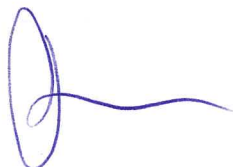
This information is not available.

7. How much money did Magma Healthcare Ltd receive from your Board for "abortion services" for 2018 and 2019?

We decline this information in accordance with Section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Official Information Act.

Should you have any further queries about the above information, please contact our OIA co-ordinator Anne Phoenix at anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz

Yours sincerely



Russell Simpson
Chief Executive