

Friday, 10 June 2022

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██████████

Re: Official Information Act Request – Pharmacy Services Agreement

Kia ora ██████████

Thank you for your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982.

The Hauora Tairāwhiti response to your request is as follows:

- *Any policy document the DHB has in place addressing the risk that an Integrated Pharmacy Services Agreement (ICPSA) is granted to a pharmacy in which medicines are co-located (ie, offered for sale within the same physical premises) as alcohol, cigarettes.*

Hauora Tairāwhiti does not have a specific pharmacy strategy. The DHB's New and Existing Provider Policy applies to, and guides Hauora Tairāwhiti consideration of, the implementation of new or existing service providers, including in relation to pharmacist services. A copy of the new and existing provider policy is **enclosed**. As you may be aware, Hauora Tairāwhiti has been preparing a pharmacy policy which, when completed, is intended to be used in conjunction with the New and Existing Provider Policy in relation to any new pharmacy application.

- *To the extent your DHB has such a policy document, documents recording any discussion about the potential issues raised by co-location of pharmacies and alcohol and/or cigarettes during the development of the DHB's pharmacy contracting policy.*

In the absence of a formal policy document addressing the "risk" identified in the request above, Hauora Tairāwhiti has no further documentation relating to this aspect of your request.

- *Any documents showing that the DHB and its personnel took into account and/or addressed the fact that alcohol and/or cigarettes are available for sale within the same premises as a pharmacy when considering the application for an ICPSA by a Countdown Pharmacy. This request is limited to ICPSA applications submitted to the DHB by a Countdown Pharmacy after 1 May 2020.*

Hauora Tairāwhiti has no documents relating to this aspect of your request. In deciding to grant Countdown Pharmacy an ICPSA on June 2021, consistent with the statutory objectives of the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000, Hauora Tairāwhiti took into account a range of relevant considerations including: (i) the location of Countdown's proposed pharmacy in the community; (ii) Countdown's philosophy regard to community pharmacy services; (iii) Countdown's capacity, capability, professional reputation and quality standards; (iv) Countdown's openness to deliver a suite of services to be offered to the community; (vi) Countdown's financial viability.

- *Any policy document the DHB has in place to monitor the operation of an ICPSA (or, if no such specific policy exists, any policy document the DHB has in place to monitor the operation of service agreements it has entered into pursuant to section 25 of the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000).*

Hauora Tairāwhiti does not have a standalone policy in place to monitor the operation of an ICPSA. As you will be aware, an ICPSA includes a number of service and quality requirements that apply in respect of all services provided under the agreement.

- *Any policy document the DHB has in place addressing how it should respond to a failure to comply with the terms of an ICPSA (or, if no such specific policy exists, any policy document the DHB has in place to address a failure to comply with a service agreement it has entered into pursuant to section 25 of the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000).*

ICPSAs include a number of service and quality requirements that apply in respect of all services provided under the agreement. Hauora Tairāwhiti does not have a standalone policy in place to address how it should respond to a failure to comply with the terms of an ICPSA. Rather, how Hauora Tairāwhiti would respond to non-compliance in any instance would be informed by the specific circumstances and nature of the obligation engaged. Hauora Tairāwhiti is also informed by inspection audits conducted by Medsafe to ensure pharmacy services to the public meet the required standard.

- *Documents recording the DHB's response to any failure by a pharmacy to comply with the terms of its ICPSA. This request is limited to failures since 1 January 2021.*

Hauora Tairāwhiti has no documents relating to this aspect of your request.

If you are not satisfied with this response you may contact the Office of the Ombudsmen, phone 0800 802 602.

Please note this response or an edited version of this response may be published on the Hauora Tairāwhiti DHB website. Your personal/identifying information will be redacted from any responses published. If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Ngā mihi

**Jim Green**  
Chief Executive  
Hauora Tairāwhiti