

Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

CORPORATE OFFICE

Level 1
32 Oxford Terrace
Christchurch Central
CHRISTCHURCH 8011

Telephone: 0064 3 364 4160
Fax: 0064 3 364 4165
carolyn.gullery@cdhb.health.nz

9 April 2018

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RE Official Information Act request CDHB 9820

I refer to your email dated 19 March 2018 and received in our office on 20 March 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB pertaining to when a health warning was placed on waterways in our district this summer (1-December-2017 to 1-March-2018). Specifically:

1. **Date warning was placed,**
 - Please refer to **Table one** (below).

2. **Date warning was lifted, GPS coordinates of monitoring site, which attribute triggered the warning**
 - Please refer **Table one** (below) for lifting of warning dates and attribute triggering the warning.
 - Monitoring of the recreational water sites is undertaken by Environment Canterbury (ECan) and therefore they have the GPS coordinates.

3. **Could you also indicate what the process is for putting out a health warning?**
 - The process involves Environment Canterbury (ECan) who monitor the sites, notifying the Canterbury DHB (Community and Public Health division), by email that there has been an exceedance of the microbiological criteria or concentrations of cyanobacteria. Community and Public Health (CPH) produce a media release which is approved by ECan before it is forwarded to the Communications section of the Canterbury DHB for release to the media outlets. The process is similar for the removal of a warning with ECan advising that the warning can be removed and a media release being produced. The exception to the above is Lake Pegasus which is monitored by a consulting company. The consultant advises ECan and CPH of monitoring results and the same process occurs as per above if a warning is to be placed on or removed.

4. Does the DHB publish the data or the warning on their website?

- The media release is put on Community and Public Health's website and on the Canterbury DHB website.
- Data of monitoring results is not published by Canterbury DHB. ECan put monitoring data on their website.

5. Do they put out a press release?

- A media release is issued as stated in (4) above.

6. Do they collaborate with the regional council before, during or after a warning?

- Yes as indicated in (3) above.

7. Can you describe the process?

- ECan and CPH have a close relationship in respect of recreational water. There are written monitoring and response protocols for Cyanobacteria and Microbiological Water Quality. The protocols are reviewed on an annual basis with not only ECan but also the Territorial Local Authorities (TLAs) who are responsible for putting up signage advising the presence of cyanobacteria or exceedances of the microbiological quality at the recreational sites. The media release process has been described above (Question 3). The TLAs are notified by ECan at the same time as CPH when warnings need to be put in place or removed.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Canterbury DHB website.

Yours sincerely



Carolyn Gullery
General Manager
Planning, Funding & Decision Support

Table one: Recreational Water media releases requested - 1 December 2017 to 1 March 2018

Location	Type of contamination Cyanobacteria Micro	Warning on Media release date	Warning lifted Media release date	Signage responsibility
Lake Ellesmere	Cyanobacteria	24.12.17	Warnings not yet lifted	CCC/SDC
Lake Pegasus	Cyanobacteria	13.02.18		WDC
Lake Forsyth	Cyanobacteria	20.2.18		CCC
Ashley River SH1	Cyanobacteria	27.12.17 Updated 29.12.17	23.01.18	WDC
Selwyn River at Glentunnel and Whitecliffs	Cyanobacteria	21.12.17	Whitecliffs 31.01.18 Glentunnel Warning lifted after 1 March	SDC
Selwyn River at Chamberlains Ford	Cyanobacteria	26.01.18	Warning not lifted yet.	SDC
Kahutara River and Lagoon	Cyanobacteria	31.01.18	Warning lifted after 1 March	KDC
Hurunui River at SH7	Cyanobacteria	24.01.18	20.02.18	HDC
Ashley River – Rangiora-Loburn Bridge	Cyanobacteria	19.12.17	23.01.18	WDC
Ashley River – near Rangiora-Loburn Bridge	Cyanobacteria	12.02.18	Warning lifted after 1 March	WDC

Note: There is a permanent warning in place for Lake Rotorua – CPH advised of bloom by Regional Council on 9.02.18 – but no action required, as specified by protocol.