

## CORPORATE OFFICE

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9(2)(a)

### RE Official information request CDHB 10542

I refer to your email dated 10 February 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

- **If measured or estimated, can I please ask for the percentage coverage for diabetic retinal screening (i.e the proportion of people with diabetes who have had a retinal screen within the last two years, or other reporting period)?**

As we reported in our answer to your previous information request, the estimated number of people enrolled with a PHO who have been diagnosed with Diabetes 1 or 2 in Canterbury is 23,266.

Canterbury DHB has 15,476 people on our retinal screening programme. All patients who meet the eligibility criteria (as listed in the 2016 Ministry of Health guidelines) are accepted onto the programme. Whilst not all people are screened as soon as we wish, no one is excluded from the programme (one exception to note: children <5 years old with type 1 diabetes are not recommended for retinal screening).

Some people referred to the programme choose not to engage, others choose to maintain their existing relationship with a private ophthalmologist or optometrist. The Canterbury DHB retinal screening programme is not provided with information on the cohort of patients under the care of private eye specialists.

With regard to the proportion of people with diabetes who have had a retinal screen in the Canterbury DHB retinal screening programme (community and hospital), we can provide the following information for the last two calendar years:

- We can report that 11,895 individuals had at least one retinal screen. This number represents 77% of people on the Canterbury DHB retinal screening programme and 51% of people with diabetes in Canterbury.
- There were 2,947 people that had more than one screen during this time in accordance with their disease priority.
- There were 14,842 screens (in total) delivered in the last two years: 7,214 in calendar year 2019 and 7,628 in calendar year 2020.

I trust 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 after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R La Salle', is positioned above the typed name.

Ralph La Salle  
**Acting Executive Director**  
**Planning, Funding & Decision Support**