

**CORPORATE OFFICE**

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16 February 2021

9(2)(a)

**RE Official information request CDHB 10539**

I refer to your letter dated 27 January 2021 and received 1 February 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

- 1. The amount of funding, if any, provided to the Pregnancy, Infancy, Parenting Support trust, [PIPS] for 2019 and 2020?**

Canterbury DHB does not fund PIPS and have not funded them previously.

- 2. Are members of PIPS permitted to provide counselling to women experiencing a pregnancy loss or adverse diagnosis?**

We cannot comment as we do not fund this agency. Members of the public may choose to utilise counselling at their own discretion. We are declining a response to this question pursuant to section 18(g) of the Official Information Act i.e. *"... we do not hold this information"*.

- 3. What are the criteria for allowing members of pregnancy support groups to provide counselling or advice to your patients?**

We cannot provide criteria for members of pregnancy support groups to provide counselling when we do not fund their agency. Accessing support is up to the individual. We are declining a response to this question pursuant to section 18(g) of the Official Information Act i.e. *"... we do not hold this information"*.

You may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek a review of our decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz); or Freephone 0800 802 602.

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'.

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