

CORPORATE OFFICE

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14 October 2020



RE Official information request CDHB 10425

I refer to your email dated 20 September 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

I would like to see evidence that the drinking-water being supplied to The Princess Margaret Hospital is monitored and also, what the test sample results are for Chloroform. The information I am requesting under the OIA concerns me and the public health of people who drink this water and if you cannot make this information available to me, I will petition to find it. The information I am requesting includes:

- Laboratory test results of transgressions in the drinking-water to include chloroforms
- Water test results to show levels of chlorine
- Evidence of water quality monitoring

In the Drinking Water register TPMH (Princess Margaret Hospital) is a specified 'self-supply'. A self-supply is where water is just supplied to one property, or one or more buildings, owned by the water supplier. 'Specified' because the water is considered to be community purpose.

The definition of a 'drinking water supplier' specifically does not include a self-supplier. The only responsibilities that a specified supply has under the Health Act is to be registered under section 69(j), they do not have the duties outlined in the Health Act for 'drinking water suppliers' — which include taking all practicable steps to comply with the drinking water standards, preparing a water safety plan (if>500) etc.

The main legislation applying within buildings such as TPMH is the Building act which requires that all drinking water used is 'potable' – which is defined in the Health Act as not having any determinants

at levels above their Max allowable value (MAV) – but in no way ties the self-supplier to the sampling regimes etc. in the Drinking Water Standards.

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

Ralph La Salle

Acting Executive Director

Ralph la Salle

Planning, Funding & Decision Support