

12th July 2021

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request for – Green Prescription Program

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 21st June 2021, you requested the following information:

- **I would appreciate it if you can send me statistics relating to the Green Prescription program from its inception to the latest numbers available. Annual figures will be fine. I am looking for the numbers of prescriptions received and completion rates. I have reached out to the Green Prescription teams directly without success.**

Counties Manukau Health Response:

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 8,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 601,490 people). We see over 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year, and over 2,000 visitors come through Middlemore Hospital daily.

The Green Prescription service collaborative consortium, comprising of Sport Auckland, Auckland Council, Papakura Marae and South Seas Healthcare aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in Counties Manukau district and to reduce the burden of disease by engaging and supporting Service Users to undertake sufficient and sustained physical activity, improve their diets and make sustained healthy lifestyle choices. This collaborative service has been in place since January 2020.

The Service has defined specific Priority Populations (Pacific, Maaori, and people living in NZ Deprivation Quintile 5 areas) based on populations that are significantly overrepresented among the population who are obese and living with long-term conditions. An overarching aim of the health and disability sector is to increase life expectancy, improve health outcomes and quality of life, and reduce health inequalities for Maaori. Green Prescription also ensure that staff practice reflects knowledge of the principles of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The Green Prescription programme is delivered through a multitude of venues throughout the Counties Manukau region and comprises of a range of services including goal setting, workshops, nutritional advice and physical activity.

Table 1 below outlines the numbers of prescriptions received (referrals received), number of patients who completed and completion rates for the period of 1 July 2020 to March 2021. We have not yet received results for the April – June 2021 period.

Period	Number of referrals received	Number completed	Completion rates
Q1	850	817	96%
Q2	998	698	70%
Q3	1065	959	90%
Total to date	2913	2474	85%

Table 1: Data sourced 09/07/2021

I trust this information answers your request. You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau Health website. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely



Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health