

20 April 2022

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Re Request for Official Information – Costs of COVID-19 Testing Centres

I refer to your official information request dated 13 March 2022, which was partially transferred to Auckland District Health Board (ADHB) from the Ministry of Health on 23 March 2022 requesting the following information:

I am requesting the full costs from these different areas as a result of COVID-19 arriving in New Zealand. This request is made under the Official Information Act.

From March 2020 to 13 March 2022.

4) the full costs of all testing centres for COVID-19, including the road cone staff and the site payments etc.

5) the full costs health workers solely working with covid ..in labs or wards or anywhere else.”

Response

Response

4) the full costs of all testing centres for COVID-19, including the road cone staff and the site payments etc.

For this question I am responding on behalf of the Northern Region Health Coordination Centre (NRHCC), the COVID-19 response and vaccination team set up by the Northland, Waitematā, Auckland, and Counties Manukau District Health Boards (DHBs).

Please find below the consolidated data against Community Testing expenditure to 28/02/22 as reported in the Northern Region Covid Financial Tracker, which shows a total cost to date of \$254,247,502. The Tracker data represents actual costs paid; there may always be late invoices received that are not captured in these figures, but these should not be material.

The data between 01/03/22 and 13/03/22 is not available, as these costs are unlikely to be received prior to the end of March, and would be for a full month not for this selection of days only. We are therefore refusing this part of your request, citing s18 (e) OIA – the information is not available.

The area/DHB to respond to wasn't specified, so we have interpreted your request as applying to the full Northern Region costs and these testing costs are also supplied in the Breakdown by DHB section below.

Table 1. Northern Region Health Coordination Centre Costs

Community Testing(Incl. Port)	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22 To Feb 22	Covid to Date
Community Testing(Incl. Port) - Funding	14,299,270	93,390,711	136,853,680	244,543,661
Payroll	194,720	1,260,613	2,027,409	3,482,742
Outsourced Payroll	32,552	363,356	3,860,157	4,256,065
PPE	810,376	1,303,367	53,144	2,166,887
Other Clinical Supplies	199,180	1,149,797	4,275,001	5,623,978
IT Related Cost	3,574	18,942	10,130	32,646
Other Operating Costs	231,514	2,592,583	11,608,895	14,432,992
External Provider Costs	19,601,088	89,632,155	115,018,949	224,252,192
Community Testing(Incl. Port) - Costs	21,073,004	96,320,813	136,853,685	254,247,502
Breakdown by DHB:				
NDHB	489,348	2,739,309	5,277,562	8,506,219
WDHB	6,192,941	32,600,006	36,769,195	75,562,142
ADHB	4,642,318	31,141,777	52,299,367	88,083,462
CMDHB	9,367,734	30,178,053	42,231,786	81,777,573
HS	380,663	-338,333	275,776	318,106
hA	0	0	0	0
NRA	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	21,073,004	96,320,812	136,853,686	254,247,502

Port = Ports of Auckland

HS = HealthSource

hA = HealthAlliance

NRA = Northern Region Alliance

5) the full costs health workers solely working with covid ..in labs or wards or anywhere else.”

The following data is from Auckland District Health Board for the period from February 2020 to the end of February 2022. The data between 01/03/22 and 13/03/22 is not available, as these costs are unlikely to be received prior to the end of March, and would be for a full month not for this selection of days only. We are therefore refusing this part of your request, citing s18 (e) OIA – the information is not available.

Table 2. Auckland DHB costs of health workers solely working with Covid Feb 2020 to February 2022

Vaccination	24,959,198
Public Health	24,680,111
Border Control	8,258,697
Hospital Clinical and Support Staff	7,890,526
Laboratory	7,129,261
Front Door Screening	2,026,249
NRHCC	2,001,760
Pacific Health	1,812,184
Wards	1,423,008
MIF	1,043,077
Community SIQ	160,768

Total	\$81,384,838
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Note the data in Table 2 excludes testing centres covered in the response to question 4.

I trust this information answers your questions.

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 response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours sincerely,



Ailsa Claire, OBE

Lead Chief Executive of Northern Region Health Coordination Centre (NRHCC)
Chief Executive Auckland District Health Board

