

1 September 2020

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Re Official Information Request – Waste water testing for COVID

I refer to your official information request dated 18 August 2020 requesting the following information:

Can you please confirm whether there has been any testing of the waste water in the ADHB region to establish the presence or other of the coronavirus leading to COVID 19, or any other associated diseases.

If affirmative please provide a summary or table of results which includes, the locations and results of such tests (positive or negative for the presence of coronavirus), the time and date of the first test per location, and most recent results, (positive or negative for coronavirus)

I am responding from Auckland District Health Board (ADHB) as the DHB responsible for Auckland Regional Public Health Service (ARPHS). ARPHS provides public health services to all three metro Auckland District Health Boards – Waitematā District Health Board, Counties Manukau Health and Auckland District Health Board, and the populations they serve. ARPHS's core role is to protect and promote public health.

We are unable to provide an answer to this question as it seeks information that is beyond the scope of the work undertaken by Auckland Regional Public Health Services (ARPHS).

As we are aware that a similar request has already been received by Auckland Council Controlled Organisation, Watercare Services, whose functions are more closely connected with the information requested and are in a position to provide an informed response, we are not formally transferring this 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 response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive