

Auckland DHB
Chief Executive's Office
Level 1

Building 37 Auckland City Hospital PO Box 92189 Victoria Street West

Auckland 1142 Ph: (09) 630-9943 ext: 22342 Email: ailsac@adhb.govt.nz

05 November 2018



Re Official Information Request for additional request re Hunua 1080 drop

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 08 October 2018 for the following information:

- a) Copies of all notifications or other advice to medical practitioners in and around the Hunua area ahead of the 1080 aerial poison drops advising them of the imminent drops, symptoms of 1080 poisoning and tests for suspected poisoning and recommended treatment.
- b) Copies of all notifications of suspected 1080 or other environmental poisoning that was or may be attributable to 1080 and the symptoms and circumstances of any such poisoning and any follow up that was done by or on behalf of the MOH. I do not need to know names or contacts of any person suspected to be affected by 1080 and am happy for that information to be redacted for privacy reasons.
- c) Copies of any other public health effects and/or complaint so possible public health effects from the recent aerial poisoning of the Hunuas.
- d) Copies of any assessments of the risk of drift of deadly 1080 poison dust on to private drinking water roof collection systems, steps taken to identify, consult with and other notify any persons with roof water collection systems who might be affected by dust from the poison drop.
- e) Copies of any assessments of the risk of drift of deadly 1080 poison dust on to private water takes, steps taken to identify, consult with and other notify any persons with private water takes which might be affected by deadly poison from the poison drop and/or by E coli or other contaminants from dead carcasses poisoned in the Hunua 1080 operation.
- f) Information showing steps taken to identify beekeepers whose bees, beehives and/or honey might be affected by 1080 poison and or by feeding from carcasses poisoned by 1080 poison to ensure that neither bees nor honey were contaminated, so protect public and international confidence in New Zealand's food safety and any new actions taken as a result of concerns in recent videos showing bees feeding from blood of mammals poisoned in recent 1080 aerial operation in Mapara.

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 have provided the information under each of your questions below.

- a) Please find attached copies of all notifications or other advice to medical practitioners in and around the Hunua area.
- b) There have been no notifications of poisoning that was or may be attributable to 1080 reported to ARPHS.
- c) There have been no reported effects on health as a result of the Hunua Ranges operation.
- d) ARPHS does not consider that dust diluted in roof water systems adjoining the operational area posed any appreciable risk to health (and hence a formal risk assessment from this exposure was not conducted). Council were responsible for identifying, consulting and notifying all landowners adjoining the operational area which included people with roof water collection systems.
- e) Council were responsible for identifying, consulting and notifying all landowners adjoining the operational area, including any people with private water takes within the operational area. Council ensured that people with water supplies in the operational area were provided with alternate supplies during the operation so that there would be no risk from drinking water.
- f) ARPHS responsibility relates to assessing risks to human health.

I trust this information answers your questions.

You are entitled under the Official Information Act section 28(3) to seek a review of this response. 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

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Chief Executive

Encl. 'Pest control in the Hunua Ranges with 1080 (Fluoroacetate) and Cyanide', 24 Sept 2018