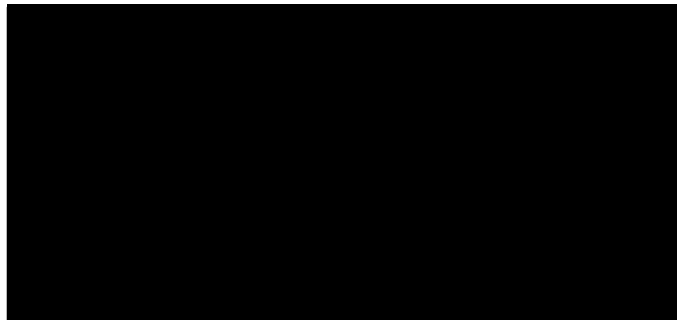


23 July 2019



**Re Official Information Request – Inspections of licensed brothels**

I refer to your official information request dated 25 June 2019 to the Ministry of Health and transferred from the Ministry of Health to Auckland DHB on 8 July 2019 requesting the following information:

**Could you provide the statistics of how many inspections have been carried out of (a) establishments and (b) homes in respect of sections 24 to 29 of the Prostitution Reform Act from 2003 until 2019, by year. To avoid doubt, these are inspections of licensed brothels or home-based sex work to ensure the Health and Safety standards are adhered to.**

**Can you provide statistics on how many investigations or prosecutions of breaches of health and safety have resulted from the above inspection for the same period, by year.**

**Of the number of investigations, please provide data on what proportion of investigations and prosecutions relate to owner-operators versus licensed brothels.**

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 – Waitemata 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. This response was coordinated by ARPHS on behalf of the three DHBs in the Auckland region

ARPHS may undertake an inspection of licensed brothels which it receives a formal complaint. There have been no formal complaints since 2010; therefore no inspections have been conducted. The Prostitution Reform Act 2003 allows a designated Medical Officer of Health (MOH) to inspect a commercial sex premises in order to assess the health and safety requirements stipulated under sections 8 and 9 of the Act. These sections essentially relate to the promotion and the adoption of safer sex practices within businesses. Other workplace issues, such as hygiene, are not dealt with by the Medical Officer of Health.

There are no records prior to 2010.

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](http://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**