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9 November 2018



Information Request - number of FENZ staff in Region 5 who used support services in 2018

I refer to your official information request dated 26 September 2018 asking for the following information:

- The number of FENZ staff in Region 5 who used support services in 2018, broken down by fire station (or alternatively town/area if this level of granularity isn't available), and noting whether each staff member is volunteer or professional.
- The proportion of FENZ staff in Region 5 using support services in 2018 as a percentage of FENZ staff in the region, and the same proportions for each of the other FENZ regions.

The safety, health and wellbeing of our people is of paramount importance to us. Every person within Fire and Emergency has a right to work in a safe and supportive environment with the tools, equipment and skills that will protect them from hazards they encounter in their roles.

We recognise that the nature of our work means our people encounter a wide range of risks to their physical safety, work-related health or psychological wellbeing. We provide support services that cater for different levels of needs our people may have.

From the establishment of Fire and Emergency on 1 July 2017, external independent confidential counselling and support services were opened up to all personnel, and their immediate families, at no cost to them. These services can be accessed for both work-related and non-work-related issues. We know this support helps our people who respond to critical incidents recover better. People who require additional support are referred through appropriate pathways.

The following tables show the use of support services in our five Regions in the first half of 2018, broken down by support type. We have not provided you with a breakdown by station as the numbers may enable individual staff members to be identified.

Fire and Emergency does not consider that, in the circumstances of this particular case, the withholding of this information is outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Note also that this response (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Fire and Emergency website.

Yours sincerely

Bella Sutherland

Director, Office of the Chief Executive

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Peer Support: 1 Jan - 30 Jun 18

		Nos. in			
		Nos. offered	the	Percentage	
	Role	support	Region	accessing support	
Region 1	Volunteers Career	32	1994	1.6%	
	staff	48	642	7.5%	
	Total	80	2636	3.0%	
Region 2	Volunteers Career	157	1915	8.2%	
	staff	31	294	10.5%	
	Total	188	2209	8.5%	
Region 3	Volunteers Career	125	2741	4.6%	
	staff	96	586	16.4%	
	Total	221	3327	6.6%	
Region 4	Volunteers Career	132	2975	4.4%	
	staff	125	314	39.8%	
	Total	257	3289	7.8%	
Region 5	Volunteers Career	60	1866	3.2%	
	staff	41	204	20.1%	
	Total	101	2070	4.9%	

EAP: 1 Jan - 30 June 18

(Vitae and EAP Combined)

		Nos. seeking		Percentage		
	Role	support	Nos. in the Region	accessing support		
Region 1	Volunteers	67	1994	3.4%		
	Career staff	15	642	2.3%		
	Role not recorded	2		0.0%		
	Total	84	2636	3.2%		
Region 2	Volunteers	27	1915	1.4%		
	Career staff	16	294	5.4%		
	Role not recorded	0	0	0.0%		
	Total	43	2209	1.9%		
Region 3	Volunteers	48	2741	1.8%		
	Career staff	27	586	4.6%		
	Role not recorded	4	0	0.1%		
	Total	79	3327	2.4%		
Region 4	Volunteers	1	2975	0.0%		
	Career staff	2	314	0.6%		
	Role not recorded	0	0	0.0%		
	Total	3	3289	0.1%		
Region 5	Volunteers	9	1866	0.5%		
	Career staff	20	204	9.8%		
	Role not recorded	12	0	0.6%		
	Total	41	2070	2.0%		

Psychologists: 1 Jan - 30 Sept 18

	Role Role not	Nos. seeking support		Nos. in the Region	Percentag accessing support	e
Region 1	recorded		1	1994		0.1%
Only one transaction			0	642		0.0%
noted in financial system	Total		1	2636		0.0%
Region 2	Volunteers		11	1915		0.6%
	Career staff		13	294		4.4%
	Total		24	2209		1.1%
Region 3	Role not recorded		10	2741		0.4%
Referrals for 2 key providers only. Not	Career staff		7	586		1.2%
supervision or Wellness checks	Total		17	3327		0.5%
Region 4	Volunteers		37	2975		1.2%
Includes staff	Career staff		56	314		17.8%
referred for 'Wellness checks'	Total		93	3289		2.8%
Region 5	Volunteers		45	1866		2.4%
	Career staff		13	204		6.4%
	Total		58	2070		2.8%

Onsite Support: 1 Jan - 30 Sept 18

	Role	Nos. offered support	Nos. in the Region	Percentag e accessing support
Region 1	Onsite support not offered in this region			
			2636	N/A
Region 2	Volunteers	Not offered to volunteers	1915	N/A
	Career staff	194	294	66.0%
	Total	194	2209	8.8%
Region 3	Onsite support only offered to career staff			
	in Napier and Hastings			
	Total	253	N/A	N/A
Region 4	Data is not kept by role and relates to career staff in Timaru, Christchurch and Nelson areas only / Numbers are issues not people accessing support	880		
	Total	880	N/A	N/A
Region 5	Onsite support only offered to career staff in Invercargill & Dunedin.	1203		
	Total	1203	N/A	N/A