

2 February 2021

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Dear ██████████

Re: OIA request – Mobile dental provider funding

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 7 January 2021 seeking information from Waitematā DHB about funding to high school mobile dental providers in metro Auckland.

You requested the following:

Can you please provide information about the following:

How much in mobile dental provider funding has been provided through the Auckland Regional Dental Service to high school mobile dental providers including but not limited to Lumino Care Dental, Smilecare Dental, West Auckland Mobile Dental Service.

Please provide figures for each year for the past five years.

The Auckland Regional Dental Service (ARDS), operated by Waitematā DHB, provides free dental assessments and care for children in the greater Auckland area on behalf of the metro Auckland DHBs Auckland, Counties Manukau and Waitematā.

ARDS does not provide funding to high school mobile dental providers. Dental care for adolescents is funded separately through the Combined Dental Agreement (CDA), a nationally standardised agreement to provide oral health care for adolescents (Year 9 - age 17).

Care under the CDA in Auckland and Waitematā DHBs is provided by three large mobile providers and several other private dentists contracted directly to the DHBs - Lumino Care Dental, Smilecare Dental, West Auckland Mobile Dental Service.

Adolescents are eligible to receive at least one free annual consultation per calendar year. Any additional consultations are scheduled as per the needs of the patients. As such, there is no fixed value for CDA agreements as it is based on utilisation of the service by adolescents and their level of need and caries risk. The value of amounts paid to CDA providers varies each year depending on the number of adolescents accessing the service in a particular year. The payments for the services at the prices specified in the CDA are paid directly to the dental provider by the Ministry of Health (MoH) Sector Operations.

The following table shows values extracted from payment data supplied by Sector Operations for the past five financial years to 2019/2020.

Auckland DHB

Mobile dental providers who have a CDA contract with Auckland DHB:

Provider Name	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Lumino Dental Limited	\$958,816	\$874,141	\$847,913	\$1,048,176	\$860,947
West Auckland Mobile	\$152,329	\$173,624	\$187,783	\$202,650	\$187,398
Smilecare	\$113,462	\$577,787	\$828,973	\$783,521	\$499,697

Waitematā DHB

Mobile dental providers who have a CDA contract with Waitematā DHB:

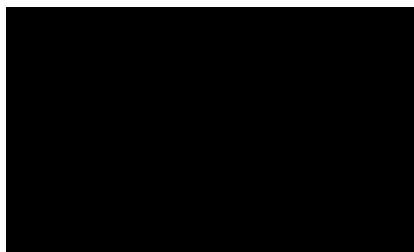
Provider Name	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Lumino Dental Limited	\$1,088,211	\$899,971	\$850,913	\$890,535	\$723,493
West Auckland Mobile	\$646,639	\$545,082	\$662,205	\$781,045	\$539,382
Smilecare	\$393,952	\$1,502	-	-	-

I trust that this information is helpful.

Waitematā DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publicly funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released.

If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider your views.

Yours sincerely



**Director Funding
Waitematā and Auckland District Health Boards**