



**Te Tāhū Hauora**  
Health Quality & Safety  
Commission

14 February 2024

By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

**Re: Official information request regarding accessing suicide data and related information**

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Official Information Act) dated 1 February 2024, relating to accessing suicide data and related information. You have asked us for:

1. a list of all suicide data that you collect/under the suicide mortality review function
2. the process for researchers to access and examine this data.

Te Tāhū Hauora Health Quality & Safety Commission (Te Tāhū Hauora) has completed your request below.

*A list of all suicide data that you collect/under the suicide mortality review function*

The National Mortality Review Committee (the NMRC) does not currently have a specific suicide mortality review function and therefore Te Tāhū Hauora does not collect any data under this function.

However, Te Tāhū Hauora does receive a feed of coronial suicide reports for use in reviews of other causes of mortality, such as family violence, child and youth and maternal mortality.

*How researchers might access and examine this data*

To access any mortality review data, researchers must first contact the Mortality Review Management Group (the Management Group) at Te Tāhū Hauora with an outline of the hypothesis the data would be used to test. If that hypothesis is aligned with the functions and purpose of the National Mortality Review Committee (NMRC), then the Management Group will work with the researcher to build a data request to the NMRC.

You can access the NMRC terms of reference on our website: <https://www.hqsc.govt.nz/our-work/mortality-review-committees/national-mortality-review-committee/terms-of-reference/>.

Once a data request is approved, researchers must submit regular updates on their work until it is complete. The NMRC will then review the output to ensure it supports the committee's functions and purpose prior to release.

This information was previously contained in a 'data access policy' which was uploaded on our website. This policy is currently undergoing review and we expect to release it publicly within the next few weeks.

Te Tāhū Hauora and the NMRC are committed to supporting the use of mortality review data in research where its use aligns with the functions and purpose of the NMRC. If you would like further information on this process, please contact Chris Kane, Data and Relationships Manager at [chris.kane@hqsc.govt.nz](mailto:chris.kane@hqsc.govt.nz).

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact us at [info@hqsc.govt.nz](mailto:info@hqsc.govt.nz). If you would like to add any additional information relevant to your request, please do not hesitate to contact us so that this can be included.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision under s 28(3) of the Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

**Please note that Te Tāhū Hauora publishes some of its OIA responses on its website, after the response is sent to the requester. The responses published are those that are considered to have a high level of public interest. We will not publish your name, address, or contact details.**

Nāku noa, nā



Raoul Sarup  
Official information advisor  
**Te Tāhū Hauora Health Quality & Safety Commission**

