

4 October 2019



HEALTH QUALITY & SAFETY  
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Dear [REDACTED]

### **Termination of pregnancy >32 weeks gestation from PMMRC 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Report**

Thank you for your 30 September email regarding termination of pregnancy >32 weeks gestation from the most recent Perinatal and Maternal Mortality Review Committee (PMMRC) report. Your request was:

The PMMRC 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Report released on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019, discloses in Table 3.27, that there were six terminations of pregnancy in 2017 that were thirty-two weeks gestation or more. I wish to request under the Official Information Act the gestational age of each of those six terminations.

You may recall my 8 August 2018 letter, which indicated that to comply with the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000<sup>1</sup>, information that PMMRC publishes is grouped and individuals are not identifiable. The law requires PMMRC to keep all information collected private, and the committee does not report or comment on individual deaths.

I have been in contact with the PMMRC epidemiology team to find out more information on the six terminations of pregnancy your inquiry is regarding. Please note that PMMRC practice considers identifiable information as a number less than 3. You will see in the PMMRC 13<sup>th</sup> Report, any number less than 3 is suppressed and represented as <3.

Once termination of pregnancy is separated by individual gestation, the deaths for each gestation >32 weeks become identifiable as per PMMRC practice. Therefore, I am unfortunately not able to answer your inquiry.

You have the right, by way of complaint under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982 to the Ombudsman, to seek an investigation and review of the Commission's decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802-602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janice Wilson".

Janice Wilson (Dr)  
Chief Executive

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<sup>1</sup> [www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2000/0091/latest/DLM80051.html](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2000/0091/latest/DLM80051.html)