

From: Jenny Lapham
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act Request
Date: Monday, 5 August 2019 12:23:00 p.m.
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your e-mail below requesting information relating to a story in the Otago Daily Times regarding water quality.

The Group Manager 3 Waters has provided the following response to your query.

The Ministry of Health's *Annual Report on Drinking-water Quality 2017–2018* released recently outlines compliance with the drinking water standards (Attached). Under the standards, drinking water suppliers test for E. coli at water treatment plants and throughout the distribution network.

Dunedin has around 50 sample taps in the network – these are generally at easily accessible sites and are not purpose-built. This means there is a small chance bugs from soil, dogs, people with dirty hands, or people washing their boots can contaminate the plumbing, leading to positive tests even though the water in the network is clean.

Of the 974 network tests in the 12 month reporting period, we had two positive results for E. coli from a tap that is downstream of a large private tank with opportunity for contamination. The tap was then resampled for three consecutive days with clear results, indicating the problem was localised. This tap is no longer used for sampling.

At the time the network was fed with an unchlorinated supply originating from the Mosgiel Bores. The Mosgiel Bores were later removed from service. The DCC now only supplies chlorinated drinking water. Chlorine provides residual disinfection as water is passed through the distribution network.

We aim to meet the drinking water standards at all times and act quickly when we get a non-compliant result to identify and remedy the issue. The installation of purpose-built sample taps across the city will mean we can rely more readily on any results as an indicator of problems with drinking water in the network.

The table below shows the number of samples required for the year, the number of samples we took and compliance results for 2017–18.

Summary of E.coli sampling results using Criterion 6A

Zone name	Required number of samples	Number of samples collected	Number of transgressions	Compliance
Booth Road	136	202	0	Compliant
Green Island	76	75	0	Compliant*
Low levels/Peninsula	136	169	0	Compliant*
Maori Hill	76	84	0	Compliant*
Port Chalmers	52	64	0	Compliant
Wingatui	52	77	0	Compliant
East Taieri	12	22	2	Non-compliant
Kinmont	12	21	0	Compliant
Quarry Hill	64	143	0	Compliant
Outram	52	52	0	Compliant
Waikouaiti	52	53	0	Compliant
West Taieri	12	12	0	Compliant

*Leniency for compliance is given.

I trust this answers your query.

Jennifer Lapham

**Governance Support Officer
Civic**

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, 2 July 2019 11:35 a.m.

To: Official Information <officialinformation@oa.dcc.govt.nz>

Subject: [REDACTED] Water quality

o. Could I have please any information you have received or sent concerning water quality in Dunedin water supplies recently.

By recently I mean which would have related to the item in the ODT which described the Dunedin water as failing to meet a key water standard.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]