

26 November 2021

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

**YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT (1982) REQUEST HBDHB REF: OIA2021149**

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 8 November 2021 where you requested information from Hawke's Bay District Health Board (HBDHB). Your questions and HBDHB's response is provided below:

- ***Who is given information on the daily COVID cases in each DHB region in advance of any Ministry of Health or government statement, or briefing?***

Information is available to Public Health clinicians and team via the EPISurv system which is a live database of COVID cases. This information is accessed in accordance with HBDHB patient privacy policies for the purpose of staff undertaking their functions.

A calculation of daily numbers is performed in advance of Ministry of Health statement, utilising EPISurv. A daily number count is sent to Public Health Operation Leads and Planning & Intelligence Manager functions of the Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS) structure. Summary data of the number of cases is announced on the CIMS incident response meeting to the those within the CIMS structure.

- ***Which stakeholders and/or partner organisations are given information?***

In accordance with Ministry of Health policy and the Privacy Act no patient specific information is shared with stakeholders or partner organisations. The Ministry of Health has access to EPISurv and extracts the required information to allow it to undertake summary reporting.

Some stakeholders (e.g. ambulance, Police) join the CIMS incident response meeting (as required) and are privy to summary data. Summary data is shared with other groups (mayors etc) as appropriate.

- ***The nature of the information; what information about the COVID cases are people given?***

Information provided external to HBDHB is of a statistical nature, which does not allow the identification of COVID positive cases. Other external information is provided to the community/mainstream media to help inform important public health advice. This may include testing information, vaccination information and/or locations of interest pertaining to a COVID positive case and/or community transmission.

Information shared internally is of a sufficient detail to allow staff to undertake their functions.

I trust this information meets your needs. If you would like any further information or clarification please phone me. If you are not satisfied with this response you may contact the Office of the Ombudsman, phone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Hawke's Bay DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Ngā manaakitanga



Keriana Brooking  
**Te Tumu Whakarae (Chief Executive Officer)**

cc: *Ministry of Health via email: SectorOIA@moh.govt.nz*  
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