

3 September 2020

(name and contact details redacted)

Dear (name redacted)

YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT (1982) REQUEST HBDHB REF: OIA2020109

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 4 August 2020 where you requested information from Hawke's Bay District Health Board (HBDHB). Your questions and HBDHB's response is provided below:

1. Does the Board have a policy to prioritise Māori and/or Pasifika patients on elective surgery waiting lists?

No HBDHB does not have a specific policy to prioritise elective surgery for Māori and/or Pasifika.

2. If so, how long has this policy been in force and when is it scheduled to end?

N/A.

3. If so, what is the rationale for this policy?

N/A.

4. If so, is the policy based on the pressures of deferred surgery due to COVID-19?

N/A.

5. If there is no such policy, why has the Board not followed the lead of the Capital and Coast District Health Board?

The DHB's commitment to health equity for the Hawke's Bay DHB population is clearly outlined in its health system strategy Whānau Ora, Hapori Ora available publicly at:

<http://ourhealthhb.nz/assets/Strategy-Documents/HBDHB-Health-Strategy-Whanau-Ora-Hapori-Ora-July-2020.pdf>

6. What is the current number of deferred elective surgeries due to the pressures of COVID-19?

Please refer to the table below for a summary of elective surgery volumes for the period April-May 2020 and 2019.

Location of procedure	2020	2019	Variance 2020/2019
Out of Hawke's Bay (IDF)	90	143	-53
Onsite – HB Hospital	391	733	-342
Outsourced	84	218	-134
TOTAL	565	1094	-529

Intensive work is underway to close the gap through improved productivity and the use of outsourced options. Updates on this work is provided monthly to the DHB Board, refer <https://hawkesbay.health.nz/about-us/meeting-agendas-and-minutes/board-meetings-2020/>

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.

Yours sincerely

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