

26 November 2020

(name and contact details redacted)

Dear (name redacted)

## **YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT (1982) REQUEST HBDHB REF: OIA2020141**

I refer to your Official Information Act request received on 23 October 2020. Your questions and Hawke's Bay District Health Board's (HBDHB) response is provided below:

- 1. What was the value of treatment provided to non-resident patients in each of the last five years and in 2020 as of October 1?**
- 2. How much of that was paid in each of those years and how much was left owing?**
- 3. How much has been written off in each of those years?**

Note: We have interpreted your request that 'non-resident patients' is referring to 'ineligible patients' as defined by the Ministry of Health (refer <https://www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-health-system/eligibility-publicly-funded-health-services/eligibility-explained> ).

Question two has been interpreted as referring to the total amount received (ie invoices paid) during the period, rather than the amount received relating solely to the invoices issued during the period.

This approach has been taken as invoices issued towards the end of the year will be paid in the next year, and consequently the amount recovered under the latter interpretation would be misleading. Identification of the amount received relating to only those invoices issued during the period would be difficult to reconcile.

All figures noted in this response, table below, include GST.

All figures \$'000	Amount invoiced for treatment	Amount received during the period	Amount written off during the period	Amount owing at the end of the period
2015/16	492	312	36	280
2016/17	377	288	14	355
2017/18	329	215	33	436
2018/19	368	395	78	331
2019/20	474	444	81	280
2020/21 (Sept)	174	122	-	332

**4. What was the largest bill racked up by a non-resident patient in that period and what was it for? If different, what was the largest un-paid bill in that period and what was it for?**

The highest value invoice sent to an ineligible patient between July 2015 and September 2020 was \$47,000 for treatment of complications relating to diabetes. The largest un-paid invoice written-off between July 2015 and September 2020 was \$13,000 for mental health services.

**5. Can you break the costs down by type of treatment?**

Ineligible patient charges are not classified by type of treatment in HBDHB's information systems. Therefore, under section 18 (e) of the Official Information Act, HBDHB declines to provide a response to this part of your information request, due to information not being held.

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

Yours sincerely



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FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

cc: Ministry of Health via email: [SectorOIAs@moh.govt.nz](mailto:SectorOIAs@moh.govt.nz) and [uia@hbdhb.govt.nz](mailto:uia@hbdhb.govt.nz)