

17 December 2020

(name and contact details redacted)

Dear (name redacted)

## **YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT (1982) REQUEST HBDHB REF: OIA2020148**

I refer to your Official Information Act request refined and resubmitted 19 November 2020 where you requested information from Hawke's Bay District Health Board (Hawke's Bay DHB). Your questions and HBDHB's response is provided below:

**NOTE scope clarification from requestor: *I'm referring to people coming in who have alcohol poisoning -those who have injured themselves with alcohol in their system; -those who have been injured by others with alcohol in their system, - -those who may be referred to the hospital from concerns around mental health issues relating to alcohol. -other health issues such as being admitted for diseases that could impact a patients liver, heart, brain etc. relating to long term use of alcohol.***

- 1. *Please provide a yearly breakdown of how many people were treated at the Hawke's Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.***
- 2. *Please provide a yearly breakdown of the age groups of those treated at Hawke's Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.***
- 3. *Please provide a yearly breakdown of the ethnicity of those treated at Hawke's Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.***
- 4. *Please provide a yearly breakdown of how many people were admitted to Hawke's Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.***
- 5. *Please provide a yearly breakdown of the age groups of those admitted to Hawke's Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period).***
- 6. *Please provide a yearly breakdown of the ethnicity of those admitted to Hawke's Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.***

In response to questions 1 to 6 above, please refer to the Appendix One. The information provided includes data on patients 'flagged' during their ED presentation as having an alcohol-related injury, impairment or condition affected by alcohol consumption.

The data shows a demonstrable uplift in volumes since 2018. It should be noted these volumes should not be interpreted as solely reflecting an increased alcohol-related social or personal health issue. Rather, the increased numbers reflect initiatives undertaken since 2018 as part of the DHB's focus on reducing alcohol-related harm in our community. These include:

- an increased focus within our Emergency Departments to identify and record patients presenting with, and subsequently admitted to hospital, with alcohol-related harm as either a

'primary or secondary diagnostic flag'

- work undertaken by the DHB's Alcohol Harm Reduction Working Group.

**7. Please provide a yearly breakdown of how many people died from alcohol related harm at Hawke's Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period)**

Hawkes Bay DHB does not hold data on cause of death.. This Information is provided directly to the Ministry of Health's National Mortality Collection <https://www.health.govt.nz/nz-health-statistics/national-collections-and-surveys/collections/mortality-collection> . Therefore under section 18 ( e ) of the Official Information Act relating to information not held, the DHB is unable to provide a response to this part of your request.

**8. Please provide a yearly breakdown of the cost for each person who was treated at Hawke's Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related causes.**

Hawke's Bay DHB classifies treatment costs by type of treatment, rather than what caused the need for treatment. Therefore under section 18 ( e ) of the Official Information Act relating to information not held, the DHB is unable to provide a response to this part of your request.

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

Yours sincerely

Chris Ash  
Chief Operating Officer, Provider Services  
TE PUNI RATONGA

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

**APPENDIX ONE:**

		2017 (1 July 17 to 31 Dec 17)	2018	2019	2020 (1 Jan 20 to 14 December 2020)
<b>Q1-3 – Breakdown alcohol-related ED presentations</b>					
Q1. Please provide a yearly breakdown of how many people were treated at the Hawke's Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm. Note: data reflects patients who presented to Hawke's Bay Hospital's ED recorded with a primary or secondary alcohol flag.		755	1438	1466	1286
Q2. Please provide a yearly breakdown of the age groups of those treated at Hawkes Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.	0-14	6	15	9	9
	15-24	192	349	308	279
	25-44	252	475	472	377
	45-64	213	418	473	412
	65+	92	181	204	209
	TOTAL	755	1438	1466	1286
Q3. Please provide a yearly breakdown of the ethnicity of those treated at Hawkes Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.	Maori	286	590	533	431
	Pacific	19	49	61	53
	Other	448	790	864	795
	Not Stated	2	9	8	7
	TOTAL	755	1438	1466	1286
<b>Q4-6 – Breakdown alcohol-related hospital admissions</b>					
Please provide a yearly breakdown of how many people were admitted to Hawkes Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.	Admitted	270	654	696	638
Please provide a yearly breakdown of the age groups of those admitted to Hawkes Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period).	0-14	2	8	3	4
	15-24	33	97	86	71
	25-44	79	186	192	156
	45-64	103	234	269	242
	65+	53	129	146	165
	TOTAL	270	654	696	638
Please provide a yearly breakdown of the ethnicity of those admitted to Hawkes Bay District Health Board from 2015 to 2020 to date (including through the COVID-19 period) for alcohol related harm.	Maori	92	264	229	183
	Pacific	5	17	26	22
	Other	173	367	437	431
	Not Stated	0	6	4	2
	TOTAL	270	654	696	638