



20 September 2021

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request

You have asked for information about Northland DHB's Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

- *Since March 2020 and by each month thereafter, the number of fully staffed/operational ICU beds available, ICU capacity, a breakdown of all ICU staff (such as numbers of ICU nurses) and any vacancies, and how many surgeries were rescheduled or postponed/cancelled.*

The data is listed in the table below. Bed capacity is based on 5 ICU beds in use. Actual beds in use is flexed up (to a maximum of eight beds) and down depending on demand.

Northland does not maintain a separate database that records rescheduled, postponed or cancelled surgeries resulting from capacity issues in ICU. You will note that in the data listed below average bed utilisation did not exceed 79%.

- *Since March 2020, copies of any reports, documents or briefings that include information about ICU capacity, including (but not limited to) in relation to Covid-19, such as contingency plans to scale up capacity.*

The following documents are attached:

- Northland DHB Alert COVID Standard Readiness Planning
- Northland DHB Alert Level Framework. Some information in this document has been withheld in accordance with section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act to protect the privacy of individuals. You have a right to complain to the Ombudsman about my decision to withhold this information.

Please note that Northland DHB's COVID-preparedness documents are living documents and are updated as circumstances change.

- *Since March 2020, copies of all correspondence with the Ministry of Health regarding critical care and ICU, in relation to Covid-19, such as confirmation of current capacity and plans to scale up capacity.*

Northland DHB is in constant contact with the Ministry of Health about its operations across our district; this includes hospital services. Critical Care and ICU is only one component of this communication. Supplying the information that you have requested would require substantial research and collation by staff currently involved in Northland DHB's COVID -19 response and supporting our Northern Region DHB colleagues. This part of your request is therefore declined under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act. You have a right to complain to the Ombudsman about my decision.

Northland DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist public understanding of how we deliver our services. This includes proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been provided to you. Personal or identifying information will be redacted from any response published online. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be publicly available we will consider your views.

If you have any questions regarding Northland DHB's response to your information request please contact Northland DHB's Communications Manager, in the first instance at communications@northlanddhb.org.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'N Chamberlain', written in a cursive style.

Dr Nick Chamberlain
Chief Executive

ICU Summary Data

Month	Nursing FTE Vacancies	HCA FTE Vacancies	Bed Utilisation	Senior Nurse FTE	RN FTE	Internal Bureau Nurse FTE	HCA FTE	Admin FTE	RMO FTE	SMO FTE
Mar-20	3.6 (0.6 is fixed term)	2.4	27%	3.5	22.4	0.2	3.5	1.0	7.0	5.2
Apr-20	0.0	1.2	28%	3.5	23.1	1.2	2.5	1.0	7.0	5.2
May-20	0.0	1.2	32%	3.5	19.6	0.6	3.1	1.0	7.0	5.6
Jun-20	1.8	1.2	41%	3.3	19.1	0.7	2.6	1.0	7.0	5.3
Jul-20	4.8	0.0	65%	3.3	20.6	1.6	2.6	1.0	7.0	5.2
Aug-20	0.0	0.0	53%	3.3	21.4	0.6	2.8	1.0	7.0	5.2
Sep-20	Data unavailable	Data unavailable	47%	3.3	22.9	0.8	2.4	1.0	7.0	5.2
Oct-20	Data unavailable	Data unavailable	63%	3.3	23.3	0.5	4.5	1.0	7.0	5.2
Nov-20	Data unavailable	Data unavailable	79%	3.5	25.3	0.7	3.9	1.0	7.0	5.2
Dec-20	0.0	0.4	64%	3.3	26.3	0.1	3.5	1.0	7.0	4.9
Jan-21	0.8	0.4	47%	3.2	25.8	0.1	3.3	1.5	7.0	4.6
Feb-21	0.8	0.4	53%	2.2	26.6	0.0	3.0	1.6	7.0	4.5
Mar-21	1.8	0.4	71%	2.0	25.9	0.3	2.2	1.8	7.0	4.6
Apr-21	1.8	0.4	64%	2.0	26.2	0.5	2.5	2.0	7.0	4.6
May-21	1.0	0.0	72%	2.0	25.8	0.3	3.4	1.2	7.0	4.6
Jun-21	1.0	0.0	57%	2.0	23.4	0.6	3.8	1.0	7.0	4.5
Jul-21	1.0	0.0	79%	2.0	22.9	0.8	4.0	1.0	7.0	4.5