



19 January 2021

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request

You have asked for information about Northland DHB's mental health unit.

- 1) *The name, location and number of beds for each mental health and intellectual disability unit (this includes forensic units) operated by your DHB.*

Tumanako Mental Health Inpatient Unit is located at Whangarei Hospital has 29 in-patient beds. Northland DHB does not have any intellectual disability beds.

- 2) *All reports carried out by the Ombudsman in the past five years on any one of these units.*

The Ombudsman undertook an unannounced inspection of Tumanako Inpatient Unit in 2020. The report is publicly available on the Ombudsman's website at <https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/resources/report-unannounced-inspection-tumanako-mental-health-inpatient-unit-whangarei-hospital>. No other reports relating to the Unit have been issued by the Ombudsman.

- 3) *For each unit, please provide the occupancy data for the 12 months ending November 30. What I mean by this is the average occupancy (in bed numbers) each month and the number of times the unit was caring for more patients than it had beds.*

The number of people admitted can be greater than the actual bed numbers due to patients being on leave and their bed being filled during that leave period.

| Period | Occupancy (Bed Numbers) |
|---|-------------------------|
| 2019 Dec | 27.6 |
| 2020 Jan | 27.5 |
| 2020 Feb | 28.4 |
| 2020 Mar | 27.1 |
| 2020 Apr | 22.4 |
| 2020 May | 26.7 |
| 2020 Jun | 27.3 |
| 2020 Jul | 27.7 |
| 2020 Aug | 28.1 |
| 2020 Sep | 27.5 |
| 2020 Oct | 26.6 |
| 2020 Nov | 29.7 |
| Count of days where the bed allocation was above the available beds | 46 |

- 4) *Please describe what strategies your DHB employs to house and care for people in mental health and intellectual disability units if there are too few beds. Does your DHB turn office space/seclusion rooms into bedrooms? If not, how do you manage demand.*

Northland DHB proactively works to support the transition of people through the inpatient unit ensuring that robust discharge plans are in place and we have recently developed a role for a discharge nurse to support the co-ordination. This model and the role ensures that wherever possible people are discharged in a timely way to create flow of beds. We have proactive Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings along with the person, their whānau and community supports to ensure that discharges are well planned and co-ordinated. We do not use seclusion rooms or office spaces as bed rooms.

If we have a person needing to be admitted and we don't have a bed available we work with our community team colleagues to support people who are able to be safely discharged.

- 5) *Please provide the most recent engineering/building report for each of your mental health and intellectual disability units (again, this includes forensic units).*

Northland DHB's Tumanako Unit is eleven years old and due to the condition (as noted in the assessment data collected and submitted to the Ministry of Health) and age of the building an additional engineering/building report has not been required.

- 6) *Please provide the self-assessment data collected by your DHB and submitted to the Ministry of Health for each of your mental health and intellectual disability units.*

The most recent self-assessment data submitted to the Ministry of Health is attached. Columns C1 to C5 are the condition grades; C1-C5 - poor, below average, average, very good . A rating of 100 in C3 means 100% average

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



John Wansbone
Acting Chief Executive