



11 May 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

**Official Information Act Request**

You have asked for information about Maternal Mental Health Services.

1. *The number of women referred to Maternal Mental Health to this DHB in 2021 and the number that were accepted.*

In 2021 there were 322 referrals into Maternal Mental Health services across the Northland region. Of these 243 were accepted and 6 were linked to an existing case (so 249 in total). The other 73 were not accepted at the point of entry as 'other services were considered more appropriate' (31), the team were unable to 'provide the service requested' (7), or 'no contact' was able to be made (35). The inverted commas used reflect the categories used in the electronic clinical record.

The results in 2021 are slightly down in comparison the 2020 with 331 referrals overall, 277 of which were accepted in that year or linked to an existing case. This is a drop in the acceptance rate in 2020 of 84% to 77% in 2021.

2. *The current wait times for Maternal Mental Health in this District Health Board.*

There are no wait times for services. Referrals are seen as soon as possible within a 7 day period. While there are peaks and troughs in the referral activity the service makes every effort to respond to a referral as quickly as possible as clinicians are aware that a quick response gives the best chance to connect with a person needing help.

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 queries about Northland DHB's response to your information request please contact me.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Nick Chamberlain**  
Chief Executive