

Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

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9(2)(a)



RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10595

I refer to your email dated 28 April 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

1. **How many adults used or were referred to Canterbury DHB's specialist mental health services from January 1 2021 to April 28 2021?**
2. **How many adults used or were referred to Canterbury DHB's specialist mental health services from January 1 2020 to April 28 2020?**
3. **How many children used or were referred to Canterbury DHB's child mental health services from January 1 2020 to April 28 2021**
4. **How many adults used or were referred to Canterbury DHB's specialist mental health services from January 1 2020 to April 28 2020?**

The response below is for questions 1 – 4

Table one (overleaf) shows:

- the number of individual patients with at least one contact for the Adult general and Child and Adolescent community services
- the number of referrals received by the Adult general and Child and Adolescent community services

Table one:

| Date | | Distinct NHI with a Contact | | Referrals | |
|-----------|------|-----------------------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| Month | Year | Adult | Child | Adult | Child |
| January | 2020 | 2474 | 902 | 1079 | 270 |
| February | 2020 | 2472 | 1014 | 1062 | 359 |
| March | 2020 | 2474 | 1124 | 1046 | 374 |
| April | 2020 | 2088 | 911 | 822 | 173 |
| May | 2020 | 2362 | 979 | 962 | 267 |
| June | 2020 | 2601 | 1178 | 1096 | 464 |
| July | 2020 | 2557 | 1236 | 1054 | 467 |
| August | 2020 | 2572 | 1296 | 1103 | 520 |
| September | 2020 | 2616 | 1314 | 1070 | 552 |
| October | 2020 | 2547 | 1148 | 1078 | 412 |
| November | 2020 | 2579 | 1191 | 998 | 438 |
| December | 2020 | 2548 | 1082 | 1034 | 338 |
| January | 2021 | 2477 | 876 | 1007 | 242 |
| February | 2021 | 2406 | 999 | 954 | 329 |
| March | 2021 | 2626 | 1262 | 1102 | 553 |
| April | 2021 | 2443 | 1107 | 941 | 396 |

5. **What is the current capacity of the Canterbury DHB's adult mental health services? I.e how many spaces are available within the different programmes/facilities?**
6. **What is the current capacity of the Canterbury DHB's child mental health services? I.e how many spaces are available within the different programmes facilities?**
Could I please get a breakdown of any increases or decreases in capacity in mental health services in Canterbury over the last five years?

On any given day, the capacity of Specialist Mental Health Services is determined by a number of factors which are constantly in flux:

- The acuity, complexity and number of people under care
- Staffing levels, skills and experience
- Access to suitable facilities

Given this, we are not able to provide definitive figures on current capacity and changes in capacity.

In terms of total capacity, Specialist Mental Health Services has 195 inpatient beds, which have been broken down by service in **Table two** (below).

Table two:

| Service | Ward | Beds |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|------|
| Adult Inpatient | 6 x wards | 103 |
| Alcohol and other Drug Detox | Kennedy | 6 |
| Child and Adolescent | CAU | 16 |
| Forensic Services | 3 x wards | 37 |
| Intellectual Disability | 2 x wards | 20 |
| Mothers and Babies - Eating Disorders | C Ward | 13 |

Table three (below) shows the number of people who had contact with our inpatient and outpatient services over the past six years:

Table three:

| Calendar Year | # Distinct People Inpatient | Calendar Year | # Distinct People Outpatients |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2015 | 1471 | 2015 | 13243 |
| 2016 | 1585 | 2016 | 13794 |
| 2017 | 1572 | 2017 | 14066 |
| 2018 | 1558 | 2018 | 14154 |
| 2019 | 1571 | 2019 | 14981 |
| 2020 | 1495 | 2020 | 14542 |

- 7. What is the current average wait time for Canterbury DHB adult specialist mental health services as of April 28 2021?**
- 8. What is the current average wait time for Canterbury DHB child mental health services as of April 28 2021?**

All referrals that are received by Specialist Mental Health Services go through an initial triage process and are prioritised according to need. People triaged as being at high risk are typically seen within 24 hours of referral.

For adults, the average waiting time to first contact (e.g. phone) is four days and the average waiting time to first face to face contact is six days.

For children and youth, the average waiting time to first contact is 11 days and the average waiting time to first face to face contact is 34 days. The 11 day wait time is an average across all CAF services. Our median wait time for first contact is one day. As previously mentioned, all referrals undergo a same day triage and contact is based on urgency or type of care required. Some diagnoses require additional information to be collected from a child's family and school prior to a face to face assessment of the child.

I trust this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Canterbury DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely



Ralph La Salle
Acting Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support