

## CORPORATE OFFICE

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9(2)(a)



### RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10879

I refer to your email dated 24 May 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB regarding Allied Health strike impact. Specifically:

**Note:** I understand that in a media response dated 12 May 2022 you were advised that *'around 100 outpatient appointments have been cancelled for Monday 16 May 2022'*. That number was an estimate based on outpatient appointments normally run by Allied Health staff on a Monday.

Please find below and overleaf our specific response to your request taken from our data system.

**1. How many appointments and surgeries were deferred as a result of the 24-hour strike on Monday May 16th?**

There were 46 Outpatient appointments and 24 admissions cancelled/deferred due to the strike on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022. **Note:** We had a slightly longer lead in time going into the strike for the 16 May so many outpatient bookings were not made rather than having to be cancelled/deferred due to the strike.

**2. How many appointments and procedures were deferred or cancelled as a result of the 'work to rule' action on May 9-20?**

No booked admissions were cancelled due to the work to rule period between 9 and 20 May. Teams worked to ensure that care provided was planned in a way that ensured it could be provided safely within the conditions imposed by the industrial action.

While there were no cancellations attributed to this action it is likely that some care was not provided that otherwise would have been. System practices in response to the Omicron outbreak mean that many services have not been booking patients until closer to the date of the intended admission than would normally be the case, meaning that in many cases bookings were simply not made due to knowledge of the industrial action.

**3. Of the affected procedures/surgeries - what kinds of surgeries - and did this include any cancer surgeries? If so, how many?**

Please refer to **Table one** (overleaf) for details of the 24 Admissions / surgeries deferred due to the 24-hour strike on 16 May 2022

**Table one:**

<b>Admission Health Specialty</b>	<b>Not cancer related</b>	<b>Cancer related</b>
Cardiology	1	
Maternity services - mother [with community LMC]	1	
General Surgery	1	2
Maxillo-Facial Surgery	5	
Otorhinolaryngology (ENT)	4	
Gynaecology		1
Ophthalmology	6	
Orthopaedic Surgery	2	
Urology		1
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4</b>

Please refer to **Table two** for 46 Outpatient appointments deferred due to the 24-hour strike on 16 May 2022

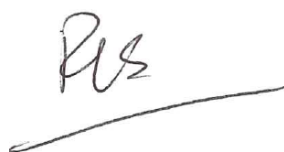
**Table two**

<b>Appointment Health Specialty</b>	<b>Count</b>
Child Development Service	2
Dietetics	1
Gynaecology	18
Otorhinolaryngology (ENT)	1
Pain Management	3
Physiotherapy	17
Rheumatology	1
Speech Language Therapy	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>

I trust that 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  
**Senior Manager, OIAs**  
**Canterbury DHB & West Coast DHB**