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20 June 2022

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RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10884 & WCDHB 9705

I refer to your email received on 25 May 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB and West Coast DHB. Specifically:

- 1. Can you please tell me how many theatre nurses you are currently short? I am referring to vacancies, rather than Covid absences.**

CDHB

There are 10.5 vacancies for theatre nurses currently; seven at Christchurch Hospital and 3.05 at Burwood Hospital. (Registered Nurse (RN)).

WCDHB

West Coast DHB has currently 0.8 FTE vacancies for theatre nurses.

- 2. What impact is this having on planned care? e.g. are theatres sometimes not able to be used because there are not enough nurses.**

CDHB

Vacancies are not having an impact on our ability to staff theatres. Our ability to deliver planned care is impacted by vacancy and sickness across all inpatient areas.

WCDHB

Vacancy is not having an impact on our ability to staff theatres.

- 3. If there is an impact, can you please estimate what percentage of operations are not able to go ahead, or how many hours theatre time cannot be used, or any other tangible measure the impact is having?**

Not applicable for either Canterbury DHB or West Coast DHB (see above).

4. What are you doing to resolve the problem?

Recruiting replacements and the Nursing Entry to Practice Programme graduate recruitment process as well as regular ongoing recruitment per speciality.

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 and West Coast DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely



Ralph La Salle
Senior Manager OIAs
Canterbury DHB & West Coast DHB