

Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

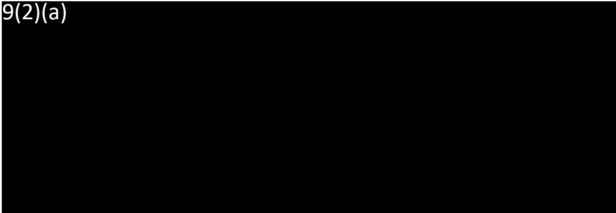
CORPORATE OFFICE

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18 February 2022

9(2)(a)



RE Official information request CDHB 10792

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

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/health/127387515/mental-health-hospital-beds-could-be-closed-due-to-severe-staff-shortages-in-christchurch?cid=app-android&fbclid=IwAR07jbXJ0Ulxrp9ldIs3ATsFKYM1pCmaWyngL29BB55SwnF4-5mLSncvIQg>

- 1. How many roles / staff have been terminated / fired / released from contracts by way of refusing mandates for COVID-19 vaccinations in the Christchurch Mental Health Sector?**

Eighteen staff from our Specialist Mental Health Service have left due to refusing mandates for COVID-19 vaccinations. We do not hold this information for the Christchurch Mental Health Sector outside of the Canterbury District Health Board. (Declined pursuant to section 18(g) of the Official Information Act.)

- 2. Please break down the numbers by worksite / medical establishments where possible, including any mental health roles in prisons?**

No Specialist Mental Health staff whose role reaches into prisons were affected by the COVID-19 mandate.

We do not hold this information, and are unable to comment, on roles provided by the Corrections Service. (Declined pursuant to section 18(g) of the Official Information Act.)

- 3. How many staff are performing double shifts on a weekly basis? (Please break down the numbers by worksite / medical establishments where possible)**

This information cannot be made available without a substantial amount of time and resource. We are therefore declining a response to this question pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

4. How much time do the patients in the mental health sector receive, on average, quality one-on-one care /support / help? (Please break down the numbers by worksite / medical establishments where possible)

We do not collect this information across our services. Support is individualised to a person’s needs, and consumers are encouraged to bring family/whānau to outpatient appointments. (Declined pursuant to section 18(g) of the Official Information Act i.e. “...we do not hold this information”).

From article: "In October, specialist mental health services were 35 staff short, out of a total of 627 budgeted nursing roles, Hamilton said. In September, the services were 25 staff members short."

5. How many staff were specialist mental health services short by in November 2021, and how many in December 2021?

Please refer to the Variance column in **Table 1** and **Table 2** (below) for FTE variance between budget and actual volume. The areas that were short are in red.

Please note this reflects FTE paid and thus includes overtime worked by staff (i.e. it under-estimates vacancies).

Table 1:

November 2021	YTD FTE	YTD Budget	Variance
Allied Health	230.02	230.60	0.42
Medical	99.74	102.34	2.60
Management and Admin	97.21	95.2	(2.01)
Nursing	602.33	627.17	24.84
Support	3.48	3.0	(0.48)
Total	1,032.78	1,058.15	25.37

Table 2:

December 2021	YTD FTE	YTD Budget	Variance
Allied Health	224.03	231.02	7
Medical	99.61	102.35	2.74
Management and Admin	96.45	95.21	(1.24)
Nursing	605.84	626.62	20.78
Support	3.36	3	(0.36)
Total	1,029.28	1,058.2	28.92

6. How many staff had left these roles wholly or partly to do with the COVID-19 vaccine mandates?

We are declining a response to this question pursuant to section 9(a) of the Official Information Act. Due to the very low numbers, providing the information would potentially make individuals identifiable. Section 9(2)(a) “...to protect the privacy of natural persons, including those deceased”.

From article: "Stuff reported in July that 13 out of about 45 staff left Christchurch’s forensic mental health unit, which handles people referred by the courts and prisons."

7. What were the reasons given for the 13 departures? How many were due to COVID-19 vaccine mandates?

We are declining a response to this question pursuant to section 9(a) of the Official Information Act. Due to the very low numbers, providing the information would potentially make individuals identifiable. Section 9(2)(a) “...to protect the privacy of natural persons, including those deceased”.

From article "The staff member who spoke to Stuff said more workers had left the forensic unit since July, and management had been unable to replace them"

8. How many more staff have left the facility since July until date of your answer given to this OIA request?

Eight staff have left the Forensic Service since July 21. However, four staff have been recruited to fill some of these positions and will commence over the next few weeks.

9. How many of these have been partly or wholly due to COVID-19 vaccine mandates?

We are declining a response to this question pursuant to section 9(a) of the Official Information Act. Due to the very low numbers, providing the information would potentially make individuals identifiable. Section 9(2)(a) *"...to protect the privacy of natural persons, including those deceased"*.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

You may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek a review of our decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz; or Freephone 0800 802 602.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RLS', with a long horizontal line underneath it.

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