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RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10824

I refer to your email dated 24 February 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB.

Please note the below information relates to care provided by the Canterbury DHB South Island Eating Disorder Specialist Service (SIED). Where an individual is under the care of another service within the Specialist Mental Health Division, and an eating disorder is present as a co-morbid condition, treatment will be provided by the lead treating team, at times in consultation with SIEDS.

SIED Specifically:

- 1. How many eating disorders beds are there in the CDHB area? How many beds have there been between 2015 and 2021, broken down by year?**

The South Island Eating Disorders (SIED) Inpatient Unit provides a service to consumers across the South Island with approximately 7-8 beds (these beds are flexible with other services based on need. These beds are not exclusively available for patients from Canterbury i.e. they service all South Island DHBs and allocations are based on need, not on geography.

- 2. How many people have received eating disorder treatment in the CDHB area in the last five years? Broken down by year? Can this also be broken down by sex?**

The SIED service provides both inpatient and outpatient treatment. **Table one** (below) and **Table two** (overleaf) provide the number of discrete episodes of care and number of unique individuals by service.

Table one: Eating Disorders Inpatient unit – C Ward

Year	Unique NHI	Total open episodes
2017	23	61
2018	51	64
2019	53	61
2020	43	50
2021	51	57

Table two: Outpatients – Eating Disorders Community Team

Year	Unique NHI	Total open episodes
2017	217	217
2018	308	315
2019	337	340
2020	390	394
2021	364	369

3. How many people have been denied eating disorder treatment in the CDHB area in the last five years? Broken down by year? Can this also be broken down by sex?

All referrals are triaged via SIED's triage team. This may lead to one of the following actions:

- Acute inpatient admission
- Consultation and support to the referrer (which includes DHB providers)
- A face to face assessment with SIED which may result in ongoing treatment
- A redirect of the referral to a more appropriate care provider (including another service within the Specialist Mental Health Division)

No referrals that meet the inpatient admission criteria have been declined.

Table three below includes the number and ratio of referrals that did not proceed to a first face to face contact after initial referral to the Eating Disorders Service as a proxy for not meeting entry criteria.

Table three: Eating Disorders Community Team number and ratio of referrals not proceeding to face to face contact.

Year	Male	Female	Total
2017	2	5	7
2018	0	12	12
2019	0	9	9
2020	0	13	13
2021	0	9	9
Total	2	48	50

4. What has been the main reason eating disorder treatment has been denied?

In the rare instance where a referral is declined without advice or an assessment the reasons are as follows.

- Insufficient information for SIEDs to triage the referral. Referrers will be redirected back to Health Pathways which outlines the information required to complete a referral and includes what treatments can be provided in primary care. If the referral is resubmitted with the all necessary information, and the person meets entry criteria, the referral is accepted.
- When, following triage of the referral, the team determines that the information provided does not meet the criteria for an Eating Disorder, as outlined in the service specifications and diagnostic manuals, such that assessment and/or intervention by SIEDS is not clinically indicated. When this is the case the SIEDs triage team recommends an alternative appropriate treatment pathway to the referrer.
 - The consumers, or their family/ whanau (in the case of those under 18), decline the offered appointment at this stage of the process.
 - Some referrals are seeking written advice only. In this case the consultant psychiatrist provides a written response to the referrer.

5. How many people have been on the waitlist for eating disorder treatment in the CDHB area in the last 5 years? Broken down by year?

We are unable to provide a retrospective waitlist in terms of people waiting as this is not how the data has been recorded historically. Declined pursuant to section 18(g) i.e. "...we do not hold this information"

6. What has been the wait time for eating disorder treatment in the CDHB area in the last five years? Broken down by year?

Please refer to **Table four** (overleaf)

Table four: Eating Disorders Community Team Average wait time (days) to first face to face contact (does not include inpatient admissions).

Years	Male	Female	Total
2017	25.60	55.07	53.51
2018	53.53	74.95	73.08
2019	105.75	83.43	84.85
2020	76.05	109.96	106.96
2021	102.21	115.38	113.99
Grand Total	73.79	86.57	85.56

7. How many people are currently on the waiting list for eating disorder treatment, in the CDHB catchment area?

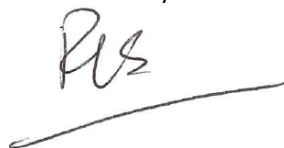
As at 8 March 2022 there are 87 people currently on the waiting list for the SIEDS.

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



Ralph La Salle
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Canterbury DHB & West Coast DHB