

5 July 2022

9(2)(a)



**RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10913**

I refer to your email dated 28 June 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

**1. What happens to the DHB from the 1 July 2022 with the new Health NZ coming?**

The Canterbury DHB ceased to exist after 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 and became Te Whatu Ora / Health NZ.

Care and delivery will continue as usual and the people of Canterbury should keep going to the places where they would usually get care, whether it's a GP or specialist appointment in hospital.

In the first few months, we'll be working on initiatives to expand workforce, implement national initiatives to support catch up on specialist services and strengthen public health services. For more patients, this may mean we offer them to go to a provider outside their normal district or in a private hospital to get their specialist care sooner.

We all want New Zealanders to have easier access to quality health care closer to home - no matter who they are or where they live, whether that's Timaru, Ashburton, Christchurch or Kerikeri. That access will support people to live longer and healthier lives, with a better quality of life. Changes to the way health is delivered will mean local people and their communities, including iwi, will have a say on what health services are provided for them in their locality, and how they'll be provided.

Local health services are going to be designed around the needs and priorities of communities, with clear requirements for active engagement and consultation. A key part of the future health system will be the locality approach that's being taken to design and deliver primary and community-based healthcare. The locality approach is founded on developing and delivering services based in response to local communities, and in the way that makes the most sense to them.

The two new national health entities, Health New Zealand and the Māori Health Authority, will have local and regional teams that will work with a range of people and groups embedded within communities to understand their needs, including mana whenua, local government and other community organisations. This engagement will then form the basis of a plan for what services need to be delivered.

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 Waitaha Canterbury website after your receipt of this response.

Ngā mihi / Yours sincerely,

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

Ralph La Salle  
**Senior Manager, OIAs**  
**Waitaha Canterbury / Te Tai o Poutini West Coast.**