

Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

CORPORATE OFFICE

Level 1
32 Oxford Terrace
Christchurch Central
CHRISTCHURCH 8011

Telephone: 0064 3 364 4160
Fax: 0064 3 364 4165
carolyn.gullery@cdhb.health.nz

25 January 2019

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RE Official information request CDHB 9998

We refer to your email dated 10 December 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB regarding pager systems for medical staff. Specifically:

We would like to know how widely these are used in New Zealand's public health system. We therefore request the following information:

- **the number of pagers used and owned by the DHB, and what these are used for (including how regularly they are used); and**

On the local CDHB system, there are approximately 850 pagers. The pagers are mainly used to contact individual staff members or priority groups both in emergency and non-emergency situations. The Paging system can also be used in other ways such as, system alarms. Pagers are used every day 24/7 with approximately 30,000 being generated each fortnight

- **any advice, analysis or planning documents in the last 12 months about phasing out pagers by upgrading to more modern communications systems; and**
- **any advice, or analysis in the last 12 months about the reliability of the DHB's paging systems.**

No planning to phase out pagers took place in the last year. Our Information Services Group will be reviewing the issue of phasing pagers out in 2019. This will include analysis of the efficacy and reliability of the DHBs paging system.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Macfarlane', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melissa Macfarlane
Acting Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support