

22 April 2020

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Re Official Information Request – COVID-19 ventilator inventory and expected demand

I refer to your official information request dated 31 March 2020 requesting the following information:

With respect I request the following information from your organisation under the terms of the Official Information Act 1982:

1. The number of ventilators held by your organisation on March 31, 2020.

Auckland DHB has 50 adult ventilators across the adult health services. We also have 6 transport ventilators that can be used as well as at least 30 anaesthetic machines which could be utilised if required. Whilst it is possible to have up to 80 patients on ventilators, staffing levels to look after these patients will determine the number of patients that we are able to care for.

2. Average usage rate for such equipment over the 2019 calendar year

Auckland DHB is declining this section of your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act as obtaining this information would require substantial collation and research.

3. Expected or modelled monthly surge demand for such equipment caused by the Covid-19 outbreak

In a severe scenario, Auckland DHB modelled that it might require 20 COVID-19 patients to be on a ventilator in hospital.

I trust this is information you were seeking.

You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. 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 Auckland DHB website.

Yours faithfully

Ailsa Claire, OBE

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Chief Executive