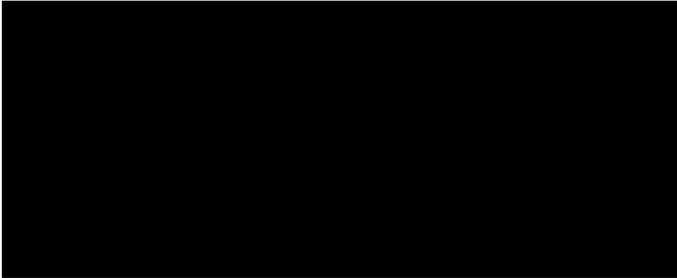


26 May 2020



Re Official Information Request – DHB Staff sent to aged care facilities through COVID 19

I refer to your official information request dated 18 May 2020 requesting the following information:

With respect, I request the following information under the terms of the Official Information Act 1982:

Copies of any correspondence with the NZ Nurses Organisation or its representatives regarding DHB staff sent to help staff aged care facilities after the onset of Covid-19 restrictions in New Zealand.

Copies of any correspondence with the above aged care facilities regarding any safe practice issues, including those identified by temporarily seconded DHB staff.

For your information, I understand DHB staff sent to some aged care facilities in the greater Auckland region raised concerns about safe practice issues, including to the NZNO. This request is intended to capture any related correspondence.

Auckland DHB has regular interaction unrelated to COVID-19 with numerous facilities, community providers and healthcare unions. We have excluded this correspondence and documents as we believe this is outside of your intended scope of your request. We have also excluded general correspondence with residential care facilities relating to COVID-19, for example the sharing of general updates, that was sent to multiple facilities not related to an outbreak.

Attached is correspondence, meeting minutes and briefing notes, in date order, in relation to the two outbreaks that were declared in the Auckland DHB area involving Heritage Lifecare Ellerslie Gardens and Remuera Home and Hospital that we consider are within the scope of your request.

Please note that we have redacted some information about patients and staff under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act to protect their privacy.

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 sincerely,

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Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive