

21 January 2022



Re: Official Information Act request – Surgery cancellations and wait times
ADHB Ref: 20211208-1114

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 23 November to the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the partial transfer (**parts 1, 2 and 3**) from MoH to Auckland DHB dated 8 December 2021 requesting the following information:

- 1. How many surgeries /procedures/assessments have been cancelled across the country in the past year.**
- 2. Is it possible to break that number down by month.**
- 3. How many surgeries/procedures/assessments were cancelled in 2019 and in 2017.**

Response

- 1. How many surgeries /procedures/assessments have been cancelled across the country in the past year?**

We rescheduled 4040 surgeries for Auckland DHB patients in 2021.

Please note that we defer and reschedule, rather than cancel, so that patients are seen for their surgery at another date other than that first arranged.

- 2. Is it possible to break that number down by month?**

| Month | 2021 |
|---------|------|
| 2021/01 | 318 |
| 2021/02 | 355 |
| 2021/03 | 406 |
| 2021/04 | 342 |
| 2021/05 | 413 |
| 2021/06 | 403 |
| 2021/07 | 400 |
| 2021/08 | 315 |

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 2021/09 | 231 |
| 2021/10 | 305 |
| 2021/11 | 339 |
| 2021/12 | 213 |
| Total | 4040 |

3. How many surgeries/procedures/assessments were cancelled in 2019 and in 2017?

| Year | No of Bookings |
|------|----------------|
| 2017 | 5213 |
| 2019 | 5329 |

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



Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive