

13 May 2022

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I am responding to your official information Act request of 13 April requesting the following information:

I am trying quantify the impact that a closed operating theatre would have on a hospital/DHB. Can you please let me know if the below is publicly available information or information that you are able to give out?

- **Average revenue per week, month or year that an operating theatre brings in**

If the ADHB does not have this sort of information, it would be great if you were able to point me in the right direction of where I could find this.

Response

I refer to your email of 13 April 2022, in which you stated "I am trying quantify the impact that a closed operating theatre would have on a hospital/DHB. Can you please let me know if the below is publicly available information or information that you are able to give out? [Specifically,] average revenue per week, month or year that an operating theatre brings in."

I understand that Mark Fenwick, Auckland DHB's Official Information Act Manager, has since contacted you as this request is being managed as an Official Information Act (OIA) request. You clarified your request as follows: "We are looking to obtain the amount of revenue that an operating theatre brings in on average. We are happy for this to be provided in a number of ways, as long as what is provided is clear so that we use it for the purpose above. Should the data be difficult to establish, we would be happy to receive figures such as: Total operating room revenue in a year (calendar of financial) and the amount of operating rooms this was spread across."

By way of background we note that while private hospitals will separately account for revenue from an operating theatre, and will enter into a 'wet lease' for use of a theatre with a DHB who provides the medical staff, public hospitals receive public funding based on the overall healthcare event. For example, if a patient has cardiothoracic surgery and is in ICU for a number of days and a ward for a week, the funding received is for the entire event, theatre being one input to the event. So the revenue received from Vote Health may encompass wards, emergency department, ICU, cancer treatments such as chemotherapy drugs, and laboratory costs. Also for admissions where the patient is predominantly being managed in an acute medical ward, there may be a theatre requirement as part of that care, e.g. a spinal blood sample with a neuraxial block for a patient with a headache.

The conclusion we have reached is that Auckland DHB does not have the information you have requested. Accordingly, your request is refused under s 18(e) of the OIA - the information requested does not exist.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ailsa Claire'.

Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive