

## Media Response

28 June 2018

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Over the days leading up to strike days, only small day-case procedures are being scheduled in theatre at Wairarapa Hospital. Patients that were booked for surgery and appointments have been rescheduled.

Major cases (e.g. elective joint replacements or anyone who would normally have stayed in hospital more than one night) have been rescheduled, if they were booked over those days.

Wairarapa Hospital would normally schedule about six patients per day who would then be admitted for overnight stays.

I estimate 24-30 patients have been affected through surgery rescheduling.

A usual day of clinics across all services at Wairarapa Hospital would involve up to 100 patients. Clinics on the days of the strike action were closed early in the negotiation process.

Services which will remain open during the strikes will be:

- Emergency Department
- Paediatric inpatient ward
- Acute surgery
- High dependency units
- Some adult inpatient services
- Maternity
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health

Services with limited support:

- Community Nursing Services
- Adult Mental Health crisis and respite support including after-hours services. (There will be no routine appointments on the day).

Services which will be closed will be:

- Outpatient Clinics

- Elective surgery
- Day Procedures unit
- Rehabilitation Unit (limited services)

“Wairarapa DHB has a deep respect for our nurses, healthcare assistants and midwives. They are a highly valued part of our workforce, committed to patient care.

“We respect their right to take industrial action and we know it is not a decision made lightly. We are committed to negotiating in good faith and we still hope for a resolution that works for all parties,” said Chief Executive, Adri Isbister.

ENDS

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