

14 June 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Official information request W18-203

I refer to your official information request dated 21 May 2018.

Request:

Record of how many women in labour have been turned away from the maternity ward month on month, for the last five years.

1. What is the reason woman in labour are being turned away from the maternity ward:
How many are being turned away because there are no beds?
How many are being turned away because of lack of staff?
2. Number of complaints the maternity department has received year on year, for the last five years.
3. Number of complaints the maternity department has received for turning woman in labour away year on year, for the last five years.
4. Record of capacity, how many times the maternity ward has been full up to May 2018, year on year for the last five years.
5. Policy on the DHBs responsibility if beds are full or there is limited staff.

Response:

The information you have requested is below.

- 1) We have not had to turn any women in labour away.
- 2) 2013 4 DHB complaints
2 HDC complaints
2014 3 DHB complaints
2015 4 DHB complaints
2016 2 DHB complaints
2017 4 DHB complaints
1 HDC complaint
- 3) No complaints for turning anyone away in labour.
- 4) We do not have records that immediately capture the information you request.
- 5) Policies if beds become full would invoke our escalation plan (currently in draft for consultation) which includes staff contingency plan and transfer out to neighbouring district health boards.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Wairarapa District Health Board website.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact:

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Communications Administrator

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Ph: 06 946 9800, ext 5840

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a trailing flourish.

Adri Isbister

Chief Executive