

30 October 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Official information request W18-257

I refer to your official information request dated 5 October 2018.

Request:

- 1) The total number of specialist appointments funded by the DHB in the 2017/18 financial year.
- 2) The number of missed (ie the patient failed to attend) specialist appointments in the 2017/18 financial year.
- 3) The total cost (or an estimate of such) of missed specialist appointments missed in the 2017/18 financial year.
- 4) An indication of the total cost of providing specialist appointment services (including salaries, overheads, and administration).

Response:

The information you have requested is below.

- 1) The DHB locally provided 19,486 specialist appointments for the 2017/18 financial year. This total does not include funded specialist appointments provided at another DHB facility nor all appointments provided by specialists providing service in the Wairarapa who have come from another DHB.
- 2) 1,801
- 3) Wairarapa DHB does not have a costing system for missed appointments, nor does the number of missed appointments necessarily translate into a cost for the DHB (e.g. In some instances clinics will be marginally overbooked to factor in for missed appointments). Using the current national price the total value of 1801 missed appointments would nominally be approximately \$552,772. As previously indicated, this does not constitute an estimate of cost.

4) Wairarapa DHB does not have a costing system. A total cost of \$5,043,675 is based on the current national price.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Wairarapa District Health Board website no less than one week after the response has been provided to you. Any personal or identifying information will be redacted from any response published online. The DHB will endeavour to resolve any concerns you should raise but, subject to any legal grounds for withholding, ultimately reserves the right to publish any information.

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

Caroline van Deventer
Communications Administrator
Email: caroline.vanDeventer@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz
Ph: 06 946 9800, ext 5840

Yours sincerely



Adri Isbister
Chief Executive