

17 March 2022

Dear 

Re: Official Information Act

I am responding on behalf of Taranaki District Health Board (DHB) to your OIA request of 28 February 2022. You have requested the following information:

- *Does the DHB use a traffic light type alert mechanism to assess general busyness measures such as occupancy eg green, yellow, orange, red, black alerts, and if so, what were the alert colours from 1 Jan 2022 to the present listed by colour and dates ?*

Taranaki DHB uses a red, amber, and green graduated system. A hospital occupancy amber alert is triggered when 3 wards reach 100% or greater bed occupancy. Most ward/unit patient numbers cannot exceed the physical number of beds. However, some units can adapt to accommodate more patients (as they have additional bed spaces) and thus when 3 wards exceed 100% occupancy our system generates a hospital red alert.

Since 1 January 2022 Taranaki DHB has recorded the following hours of amber or red alerts:

- Amber: 98 hours total for the time period. 64 hours of that commenced on 18 January spanning several days.
- Red: 10 hours alert level on two separate occasions.

I trust the above information answers your OIA request.

Kind regards



Katy Sheffield
Chief Operating Officer (acting)