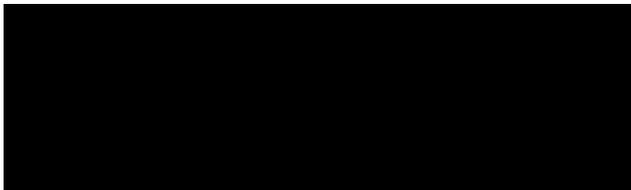


25 March 2022



Dear 

**Re: Official Information Act**

I am responding on behalf of Taranaki District Health Board (DHB) to your OIA request of 25 February 2022. You have requested the following information:

- How many hours per week, on average, are operating theatres undertaking elective planned care and acute procedures, listed elective theatre procedures, acute theatre procedures, and both of these two individually as proportions of overall theatre availability?*
  - An average of 71 hours of time is rostered to provide acute work each week in a dedicated acute theatre, along with an on-call service to provide care outside rostered hours. In the 12 months from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021, an average of 53 hours per week has been completed in this theatre.
  - In the five elective/planned operating theatres, the average elective hours provided is 114 hours per week and an average of six hours of acute surgeries out of a potential average of 160 hours per week.
  - Of the available rostered theatre time across all theatres, the percentage of acute cases performed is 23% and elective cases is 52%.
  - Of the actual surgery completed, 34% is acute surgery versus 66% elective/planned surgery.
- What percentage of overall available theatre time is currently not used and potentially available for elective planned care procedures listed as a percentage of overall available theatre time?*
  - An average potential capacity of 40 hours per week for additional elective procedures, 25% of potential elective theatre time.

**Important Note:** The volumes and averages in this submission have been significantly impacted over the past 12 months due to recruitment challenges. The department does not currently have sufficient staffing capacity to operate six theatres each day. It currently operates between four and five theatres each day depending on staffing availability.

I trust the above information answers your OIA request.

Yours sincerely



Katy Sheffield  
**Chief Operating Officer (acting)**

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