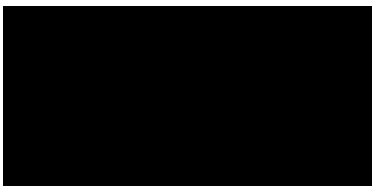


1 April 2022



Dear 

Re: Official Information Act

I am responding on behalf of Taranaki District Health Board (DHB) to your OIA request of 12 March 2022. You have requested the following information:

We are writing to you to request information about your policies regarding birthing people who test positive for Covid19 and their ability to have a support person of their choosing throughout their labour and birth in your hospitals and birth centres.

We are concerned about reports from consumers and patients who have been denied access to support people and advised that they will be birthing alone if they or their support person test positive for Covid19.

It is Taranaki DHB's policy to as flexible and considerate as possible for birthing patients and their support. If the patient, support person or both are COVID positive appropriate precautions will be required.

Additional support people can be agreed on a case by case basis (normally on compassionate grounds).

I trust the above information answers your OIA request.

Kind regards



Katy Sheffield
Chief Operating Officer (acting)