

12 October 2022

[REDACTED]

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**Re: Official Information Act**

I am responding on behalf of Te Whatu Ora Taranaki to your request for information as per your email of 3 October 2022. You have requested the following information:

*Could you provide me any information on the decision to close/not tender for the post mortem facility at the base hospital and subsequent decision to have the deceased transported to Waikato for post mortem.*

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) undertook a national procurement process for coronial support services, which took place over a number of years. Taranaki District Health Board (now Te Whatu Ora Taranaki) received correspondence from the MoJ in July 2018 stating that the MoJ would not be contracting Taranaki DHB for mortuary services after 30 September 2018.

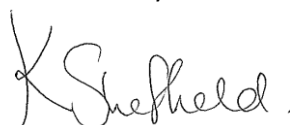
*Also could you provide information on which hospital department is currently responsible for the upkeep of the mortuary as it currently is (being a body store and viewing room).*

From a facilities upkeep perspective the Engineering Department looks after all areas on site. Te Whatu Ora Taranaki's Patient Support Services support body storage and access to the viewing room for families/whanau, police services and funeral directors.

I trust this information answers your OIA request.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Te Whatu Ora Taranaki ([www.tdhb.org.nz](http://www.tdhb.org.nz)) 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. Te Whatu Ora Taranaki 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.

Yours sincerely



Katy Sheffield  
**Acting Chief Operating Officer**  
**Taranaki District**

[TeWhatuOra.govt.nz](http://TeWhatuOra.govt.nz)

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