



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

Corporate Office
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3 July 2020

9(2)(a)

RE Official information request WCDHB 9436

We refer to your email dated 29 May 2020 to the Ministry of Health which they subsequently partially transferred to us on 12 June 2020 requesting information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB. Specifically, the Ministry transferred Questions 4, 5 and 6 to us as follows:

4. **The total number of incidents involving an allegation that a member of the public had impersonated a physician, between 1 May 2019 and 31 August 2019, and in the event there were such incidents reported, the date of the alleged incident, the names of the agencies the incidents were reported to, and a description of the evidence provided to support the allegation of the incident.**

We do not hold any information involving an allegation that a member of the public impersonated a physician between 1 May 2019 and 31 August 2019.

5. **The total number of incidents involving an allegation that a member of the public had gained unauthorised access to a surgical theatre or pathology laboratory, between 1 May 2019 and 13 August 2019, and in the event there were such incidents reported, the date of the alleged incident, the names of the agencies the incidents were reported to, and a description of the evidence provided to support the allegation of the incident.**

We do not hold any information involving an allegation that a member of the public gained unauthorised access to a surgical theatre or pathology laboratory, between 1 May 2019 and 13 August 2019.

6. **The total number of incidents involving an allegation that a DHB employee had engaged in the interception of private email communications between a patient and a DHB employee, between 1 January 2019 and 29 May 2020, and in the event there were such incidents reported, the dates of the incidents, the names of the agencies the incidents were reported to, a description of the evidence provided to support the allegation of the incident, and the outcome of the investigation into the incidents (e.g., District or High Court Case Number, Privacy Commissioner ruling, Ombudsman decision, Human Rights Tribunal ruling, etc.)."**

We do not hold any information involving an allegation that a West Coast DHB employee had engaged in the interception of private email communications between a patient and a West Coast DHB employee between 1 January 2019 and 29 May 2020.

We are therefore declining to provide a response to the above questions pursuant to section 18(g) of the Official Information Act i.e. "... the information requested is not held by the West Coast DHB."

You may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek a review of our decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz; or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the West Coast DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gullery', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support