



# *West Coast District Health Board*

## *Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini*

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10 December 2020

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### **RE Official information request WCDHB 9497**

I refer to your email dated 18 November requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB. Specifically

**1. How many non-Maori are currently on a waitlist for psychological intervention with a psychologist?**

We do not currently have a psychology service at the West Coast DHB.

**2. If Maori specific mental health services exist within the DHB MHAS:**

A Maori mental health service exists, and is staffed by non-clinical Pukenga Tiaki.

**a. What are the criteria for acceptance into these services?**

Any tangata whaiora who is in our Mental Health and Addiction services is eligible for the Maori Mental Health service

**b. How many referrals were made to these services between 1 July, 2019 and 30 June, 2020? Please provide numbers of referrals for each service where there is more than one service.**

Fifty-seven people accessed the Maori Mental Health service between 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020. **Note:** We do not hold a record of the number of internal referral requests sent through to the service. (partially declined under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act.)

**c. What psychiatric diagnoses did these people present with?**

We do not hold this information in an easily retrievable electronic system and it would require us to manually look through people's individual files. We are therefore declining a response to this question under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

**d. How many referrals were accepted by these services in the absence of a psychiatric diagnosis? Please provide numbers of referrals for each service.**

Only clients of Mental Health and Addiction services have accessed our Maori Mental Health service, hence all clients would have at least a provisional diagnosis when engaging with our Maori Mental Health service

**e. How many of these referrals were declined?**

**i. What were the three most common reasons for a referral being declined?**

Referrals are not declined by the Maori Mental Health Service.

I trust this satisfies your interest in this matter.

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](http://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 blue ink, appearing to read 'R La Salle'.

Ralph La Salle  
**Acting Executive Director**  
**Planning, Funding & Decision Support**