



# West Coast District Health Board

## Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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### RE: Official Information Request WCDHB 9504

I refer to your email received 8 December 2020, and the clarification received on 10 December 2020, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from the West Coast DHB. Specifically:

- *In February the careers page on the link supplied showed all the services that were offered at the Buller Health (Buller Hospital). We are seeking the list of services that the page stated were on offer at Buller medical.* [http://www.westcoasthealthcareers.co.nz/GP/-\\_I.2067](http://www.westcoasthealthcareers.co.nz/GP/-_I.2067)

Please find attached below as **Appendix 1** a copy of the list of services at Buller that were posted as at 1 February 2020 on the careers website [http://www.westcoasthealthcareers.co.nz/GP/-\\_I.2067](http://www.westcoasthealthcareers.co.nz/GP/-_I.2067). This post had been inadvertently linked to an outdated list that contained a number of services and beds that were no longer current at that time. This post was subsequently withdrawn and removed when the error was noticed.

A summary list of current services available through Buller Health are posted on the West Coast DHB public website - <https://www.wcdhb.health.nz/hospitals-health-facilities/buller-health/>. Please find attached as **Appendix 2** a list of core services provided at Buller Health that are currently posted on this website at this time. This listing of services for Buller Health does not purport to be exhaustive. We note that our websites are dynamic, so contents and listings will change from time to time.

I trust this satisfies your interest in this matter.

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

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

## Buller Health



**Buller Health**— based in Buller's main town Westport

This is an exciting time for Buller Health – a time for lateral thinking health professionals looking for a challenge and looking for an opportunity to reconsider the way we deliver services to rural communities. Buller Health is an integrated health unit housing all of the West Coast DHB services for Westport and Northern Buller. It services an area from Punakaiki in the south to Karamea in the north, and Inangahua Junction in the east. Specialist services for Buller patients are accessed via Out Patients Department clinics, Telehealth clinics, the Mobile Surgical Bus or from Grey Base Hospital, which is 100 km away.

Buller Health especially supports the development of new models of care which seeks a multidisciplinary focus that builds on collaboration and community involvement. The maintenance of wellbeing is not only the reserve of the health system.

Buller Health brings together the primary practice, inpatient care, community services, allied health, care of the elderly, outpatient services, maternity services and residential care to name a few. The Buller Health Plan identifies the health priorities for our community and provides information on our core services and our future focused work, such as chronic disease management.

The unit includes:

- Primary care practice
- 8 bed acute medical ward (Foote Ward)
- A & E department
- Outpatients department serviced by visiting specialists
- 17 bed long stay ward (Dunsford Ward)
- Palliative care unit (Kowhai)
- 4 bed birthing unit (Kawatiri)
- 26 bed residential care 1 bed carer support facility (Kynnersley Home)
- X-ray department
- Occupational therapy unit
- Physiotherapy department
- District Nurses
- Public Health Nurse
- Social Worker and Field Workers
- Carelink – NASC service for aged care
- Community Mental Health Unit with visiting alcohol and drug counsellors, and a special child and adolescent mental health team.
- Health promoters - Cervical Screening, Smoking Cessation
- Clinical Nurse Specialists – sexual health, diabetes educator, cardiac, palliative and respiratory nurse specialists
- Co-located with St John Ambulance Service

General Practitioners see patients in the practice as well as taking their turn working in the acute medical ward, A & E, long term care ward and the residential care facility. The practice has 7,000 + enrolled patients and staff consisting of General Practitioners, Practice Nurses, and a Phlebotomist all supported by a Practice Manager and a dedicated administration team. A satellite surgery in Ngakawau is staffed by a Rural Nurse Specialist and receptionist with weekly sessions provided by a GP based in Karamea. Another satellite surgery 100 km to the north in Karamea is staffed by two rural nurse specialists and a part time GP.

Co-located within Buller Health is the St Johns team, a community hearing therapist and public health organisation (PHO) navigator for cancer support and the mild to moderate mental health intervention team.

**Appendix 2: Copy of contents of West Coast DHB public website showing current services at Buller Health; at website address <https://www.wcdhb.health.nz/hospitals-health-facilities/buller-health/>**

***Our services***

24/7 Acute Services

Acute Observation

Advanced Care Planning (ACP)

Birth unit

Blood pressure checks chronic care management

Cancer services (oncology)

Cervical screening

Clinical Nurse Specialists for Palliative/Oncology/Respiratory/Cardiac/diabetes

Community Services (Physio, Occupational Therapy, Social Work, Alcohol and other Drug services, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Community Mental Health, Complex Clinical Care Network - CCCN)

Diabetes

Dietitian

District nurses

Diversional Therapy

Driving license medicals

Ear suctioning

ECGs heart checks

General & family medical care

General Inpatient Ward

Health promoters

Heart services (cardiac)

Help to stop smoking

Home & Community Support Services

Insurance medicals

IV infusions for osteoporosis treatment

**Laboratory**

Liquid nitrogen & cryotherapy

Maternity services

Meals on Wheels

Men's health
Mental Health services
Minor accidents
Minor surgery services
National Travel Assistance Coordination
Occupational therapy
Outpatients department serviced by visiting specialists
Palliative care
Physiotherapy department
Plastering fractures and broken bones
Poutini Waiora
Public health nurse
<a href="#">Radiology (X-ray)</a>
Respiratory
Sexual health services
Sexual health screening
Skin cancer and mole checks
Smoking Cessation
Social Worker
Spirometry lung function tests
Subsidised chronic care management and care plus programmes
Suturing (stitching) wounds
Travel health advice, vaccinations (excluding yellow fever) and medication
Vaccinations (all childhood vaccinations)
Well Child Tamariki Ora checks
Womens health including a nurse cervical smear taker