



# West Coast District Health Board

## Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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3 September 2021

9(2)(a)

### RE Official Information Act request WCDHB 9583

I refer to your email dated 29 July 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB. Specifically:

**1. RMO FTE as at 1 July 2021 on ED runs for each ED department, broken down into House Officer and Registrar.**

As at 1 July 2021, West Coast DHB utilise 6.0 individual FTE RMOs - including 4 House Officers and 2 Registrars - who between them, rotate cover duties to provide 1.0 FTE per RMO shift at our Emergency Department (ED) at Greymouth each day. Each RMO shift at the Grey ED is supported by an on-call Rural Hospital Medicine (RHM) Senior Medical Officer (SMO), in addition to the regular contingent of nursing staff at the ED. This noted, the current make-up of regular rostered ED shifts for the respective RMOs, ED SMOs and RHM SMO shifts each week and shift times are as follows:

WEEKDAY (Monday - Friday)		WEEKEND (Saturday-Sunday)	
0800-1600	ED SMO Shift	0800-1600	RMO Shift
1200-2000	RMO Shift	1100-1900	ED SMO Shift
1400-2200	ED SMO Shift	1400-2200	RMO Shift
2200-0800	RMO Shift	2200-0800	RMO Shift
0800-0800	RHM SMO On-Call	0800-0800	RHM SMO On-Call

The apparent overlap of the respective ED SMO and RMO rostered shift start and finish times in the table above are correct as annotated – this is done to support continuity of clinical care across peak demand times in the Emergency Department and allow for adequate supervision.

**2. RMO FTE as at 1 July 2016 on ED runs for each ED department, broken down into House Officer and Registrar.**

A different model of clinical cover was operated at our Emergency Department at Greymouth each day back as at 1 July 2016. Moreover, a strategic intent to become a training hub for rural workforce has meant this is a significant change from 2016. During this period, an RMO supported by an on-call ED or RHM SMO covered night shifts between 2200 hours and 0800 hours the following morning. SMOs were rostered on to cover over shift periods between 0800 hours and 2200 hours on a regular basis. During

this time, none of the RMOs were engaged to work solely in the ED with their day duties largely based on the wards. They were employed in registrar positions but were largely non-training PGY4-5 doctors. The requirement to work nights meant we were unable to employ any pre-vocational doctors in Greymouth. This also meant the experience in ED was limited essentially to night duty cover (when no SMOs were rostered). This noted, the make-up of regular rostered ED shifts for the respective RMOs and ED SMO shifts each week and shift times back in July 2016 was as follows:

WEEKDAY SHIFTS (Monday - Friday)		WEEKEND SHIFTS (Saturday-Sunday)	
0800-1600	ED SMO Shift	0800-1600	ED SMO Shift
1400-2200	ED SMO Shift	1400-2200	ED SMO Shift
2200-0800	RMO Shift	2200-0800	RMO Shift

### 3. Patient volumes in ED by month for the last five years.

Please find below a summary of the total number of presentations to our Emergency Department at Greymouth each month for the past five financial years to 30 June 2021, including planned and unplanned follow ups:

Period	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016							897	972	926	1,015	989	999
2017	951	1,003	1,084	997	926	915	941	991	985	1,070	1,048	1,138
2018	1,141	969	1,032	929	927	910	984	1,012	1,038	1,022	1,034	1,136
2019	1,069	1,062	1,021	1,015	929	946	1,051	957	979	950	1,010	1,098
2020	1,150	1,017	973	582	756	862	908	866	794	905	935	1,047
2021	969	911	940	868	861	932						

### 4. Patient presentations in ED in January 2021 and June 2021 broken down by time band (as below) and day of the week:

- a. 0800 to 1600 hours
- b. 1600 to 0000 hours
- c. 0000-0800 hours.

Please find below a summary of the total number of presentations to our Emergency Department at Greymouth in January 2021 and June 2021 by time band and day of the week, including planned and unplanned follow ups:

JANUARY 2021	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	TOTAL
00:00-08:00 Hours	5	12	11	10	15	20	22	95
08:00-16:00 Hours	82	53	57	49	74	92	92	499
16:00-23:59 Hours	52	52	43	50	60	63	55	375
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>969</b>

JUNE 2021	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	TOTAL
00:00-08:00 Hours	19	13	13	9	25	13	6	98
08:00-16:00 Hours	71	97	77	48	64	67	78	502
16:00-23:59 Hours	51	49	59	31	46	48	48	332
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>932</b>

I trust that 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tracey Maisey', with a stylized, flowing script.

Tracey Maisey  
**Executive Director**  
**Planning, Funding & Decision Support**