

Richard James

By email: fyi-request-15310-828adad8@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H202105171

Dear Richard James

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 2021 for:

“Please could the National Ambulance Sector Office (NASO) provide all information they have regarding the effects on aeromedical transfer of patients caused by Wellington Airport's recent night-time runway closures

Particularly:

- All communication NASO had with Wellington Airport regarding the runway closures*
- Any notification by or discussion within NASO regarding the effects on national (Auckland-based) specialist aeromedical services (including pediatric)*
- Any notification by or discussion within NASO regarding the effects on regional aeromedical services (Hawkes Bay, Nelson Marlborough, Capital & Coast, and Wanganui DHBs)*
- The number of patients affected (who could not be transferred, were taken to other airports, or transfer was delayed) & assessment of any harm caused to them*
- Any assessment of the financial cost to aeromedical services caused by Wellington Airport runway closures*

The Ministry of Health (The Ministry) has conducted a search to locate any documentation that may be within scope of your request. Three emails have been identified. Please find these attached. Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons. There has been no further correspondence or communication NASO has received regarding the Wellington Airport runway closure.

However, additional information may be held by the relevant District Health Boards (DHBs) identified within your request. Please refer to the following link for a list of DHBs and their websites:

www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-health-system/key-health-sector-organisations-and-people/district-health-boards/district-health-board-websites.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'MBurrows'.

Monique Burrows
Group Manager, Primary Health Care System Improvement and Innovation
Health System Improvement and Innovation