

21 December 2021

Mr Andrew McGregor

Email: fyi-request-17688-785a2eb9@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr McGregor

Re: Official Information Act Request 2315

I refer to your Official Information Act request, as transferred to us from the Ministry of Health on 2 December 2021, in which you specifically requested the following:

The percentage of patients that have been declined referrals from multiple internal and external requests for gastro-intestinal department

- **Multiple being more than 3 separate GP/Doctor referrals**

Data relating to multiple referrals to the same specialty and for the same indication is not specifically collected. Gathering this data would require a manual review of individual patient records. After considering the options of charging or extending the timeframe, we have concluded that we are unable to respond to your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of our decision by the Ombudsman. The Ombudsman's Office can be contacted on 0800 802 602 or on-line at <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/>.

Yours sincerely



Chris Fleming
Chief Executive Officer