

30 August 2022

Emma Vitz

Īmēra / Email: fyi-request-19607-52a6afd1@requests.fyi.org.nz;

Kia ora / Dear Emma

Official Information Act request ChChD (Canterbury District) 10899

I refer to your email dated 7 June 2022 to Ministry of Health which they subsequently transferred to us on 15th June 2022. Your request asks for the following information under the Official Information Act from **Waitaha Canterbury** regarding outsourcing elective surgeries. Specifically:

1. **The total number of surgeries outsourced by year (including the year to date) for the past five years.**
2. **For each year, provide a breakdown of the type of procedure.**

Please refer to **Table one** (below) for approximate elective outsourced surgeries provided in Waitaha Canterbury, This information is from 1 January 2018 to 31 March 2022 noting for 2022 three months of information is provided.

Table 1: Waitaha Canterbury's outsourced elective surgery volumes - 1 January 2018 to March 2022

Health Specialty	Calendar Year					Total
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 (3 months to March)	
Cardiothoracic Surgery	125	114	92	77	13	421
General Surgery	742	629	778	792	177	3118
Gynaecology				18		18
Ophthalmology	743	768	739	997	172	3419
Orthopaedic Surgery	818	783	761	*	120	2482*
Otorhinolaryngology (ENT)	225	314	220	202		961
Paediatric Surgery				<5		
Plastic Surgery [excluding burns]	168	349	324	<5	<5	848
Vascular Surgery	78	137	125	35		375

* pending final volume numbers to be confirmed

We are declining to provide numbers of outsourced patients where numbers are less than 5 (<5) pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act to protect individual privacy.

3. **For each year, provide the total spend on outsourced elective surgeries.**

Please refer to **Table two** (overleaf) for approximate total spend on outsourced elective surgeries provided in Waitaha Canterbury. This information is from 1 January 2018 to 31 March 2022 noting for 2022 three months of information is provided. The spend captured is for outsourced surgery only; surgery carried out by private hospitals in their facilities by their staff.

Table 2 – Waitaha Canterbury’s outsourced elective surgery spend from 1 January 2018 to 31 March 2022

Discharge Health Specialty	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 (3 months to 31 March)	Total by Specialty (GST exclusive)
Cardiothoracic Surgery	\$ 3,862,575.20	\$ 3,837,305.83	\$ 2,868,499.66	\$ 2,423,265.00	\$ 379,260.42	\$ 13,370,906.11
General Surgery	\$ 4,653,851.06	\$ 3,931,390.90	\$ 4,895,026.73	\$ 5,686,411.16	\$ 1,171,057.26	\$ 20,337,737.11
Gynaecology				\$ 108,975.50		\$ 108,975.50
Ophthalmology	\$ 1,747,935.00	\$ 1,785,715.00	\$ 1,735,025.02	\$ 2,420,191.06	\$ 436,030.00	\$ 8,124,896.08
Orthopaedic Surgery	\$ 8,589,489.92	\$ 8,130,557.43	\$ 8,171,420.96	*	\$ 1,252,800.00	\$26,144,268.31*
Otorhinolaryngology (ENT)	\$ 911,020.67	\$ 1,890,924.81	\$ 1,351,992.14	\$ 865,498.27		\$ 5,019,435.89
Paediatric Surgery				\$ 101,913.01		\$ 101,913.01
Plastic Surgery [excluding burns]	\$ 917,170.63	\$ 1,178,946.95	\$ 1,749,968.25	\$ 36,332.31		\$ 3,882,418.14
Vascular Surgery	\$ 445,564.83	\$ 505,901.83	\$ 471,575.02	\$ 162,374.67		\$ 1,585,416.35
Total by calendar year	\$ 21,127,607.31	\$ 21,260,742.75	\$ 21,243,507.78	\$ 11,804,960.98	\$ 3,239,147.68	\$ 52,531,698.19

* pending final figure to be confirmed

4. For each year, provide the amount that these surgeries would have cost the DHBs if they had not been outsourced.


We are declining to provide this information as this will require substantial collation or research, pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

I trust that 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; or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Waitaha Canterbury website after your receipt of this response.

Ngā mihi / Yours sincerely,



Ralph La Salle
Senior Manager, OIAs
Waitaha Canterbury / Te Tai o Poutini West Coast.