

10 October 2023

Eric Whittome  
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Tēnā koe Eric

**Your request for Official information, reference: HNZ00029446**

I refer to your request which was transferred to Te Whatu Ora on 4 September 2023, asking for the following which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*A response to an official information act request revealed there 357 nurses, 26 doctors and 64 midwives who left as a result of the New Zealand government's vaccination order up to March 2022. More left after requirements for boosters.*

*Given the vaccination orders were repealed in Sept of 2022.  
Since Sept 2022, how many of these health professionals have you hired back?  
Please would you provide this data by dhb.*

*How many vacancies do you currently have for each dhb?*

Please see below our response to each part of your request.

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We do not hold information as to individuals who have left and re-entered the workforce in relation to COVID-19 vaccination. We are also unable to identify people who have left Te Whatu Ora and returned, only those employees who have renewed their annual practising certificates; however, they could be working for any employer.

While the Act allows New Zealanders to ask for information from Ministers and government agencies, there is no requirement for agencies to create new information, or compile information they do not hold. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act on the grounds that it is not held by Te Whatu Ora.

*How many vacancies do you currently have for each dhb?*

Please see the requested data attached as Appendix 1. It is important to note that as this is provisional, this data has not undergone full quality assurance.

## How to get in touch

If you have any questions, you can contact us at [h.nzOIA@health.govt.nz](mailto:h.nzOIA@health.govt.nz).

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Nāku iti noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Slater', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Andrew Slater  
**Chief People Officer**  
**People & Communications**