



22 February 2016

Megan Rae
Just Speak

Via email to: fyi-request-3571-2d4ab045@requests.fyi.org.nz

**Mental Health & Addictions
Services**

Waiora Waikato Hospital Campus
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New Zealand

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Dear Ms Rae

Re: Request for information

Thank you for your email of 26 January 2016 requesting information subject to the Official Information Act. Specifically you have requested:

1. The total number of prisoners placed on the waiting list for inpatient services during the course of the most recent year you have records for;
2. The length of time, in days, each prisoner spent on the waiting list.

Forensic psychiatry services are provided in the midland region by Puawai: The Midland Regional Forensic Psychiatry Service.

From 1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015 22 individual prisoners were placed on the waiting list for inpatient services. Individuals appearing on the sub-acute psychiatric admission list, are more accurately described as waiting for admission in relation to rehabilitation, but are admitted to a sub-acute ward, before moving through a rehabilitation pathway.

Of those placed on the waiting list, nine did not require admission, either responding to treatment without requiring hospitalization, or not transferring to the Midland Regional Forensic Psychiatry Service.

In response to your request for the specific length of time, in days, each prisoner spent on the waiting list, were we to provide detailed information, the very small amount of prisoners concerned would potentially make identification of individuals possible and result in privacy breaches.

We can confirm the shortest waiting time was one day and the longest 28 days. The prisoner who waited 28 days was on the sub-acute waiting list to prepare for release from prison. For all prisoners, the average time spent on the waiting list was 9.6 days.

If you have any further queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely

Dr Rees Tapsell
Executive Clinical Director
Puawai: Midland Regional Forensic Psychiatry Service