

6 July 2016

Alex Harris

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Your Request for Information under the Official Information Act – 2016/101

In response to your request, I would advise the following.

- *The number of mental health patients currently detained in seclusion units:*

Seclusion is not a treatment, it is an intervention that is used as a last resort when necessary to maintain safety. Capital & Coast DHB does not have a seclusion unit.

- *How long each has been detained for. I am happy for this to be aggregated into bands (e.g. less than one month, 1-3 months, 3-6 months, 6 months – year and so on) in order to protect privacy. If this would result in a refusal for substantial collation and research because there are more than a hundred such detainees, I am happy to limit the statistics to those detained for more than six months.*

The general use of seclusion across our acute, regional forensic, rehabilitation and the national intellectual disability forensic services continue to be relatively low in relation to the complexity and acuity of the consumers who use these services.

Over the past five years Capital & Coast DHB has seen a reduction in the overall use of both restraint and seclusion. We continue to be amongst the lowest users of seclusion nationally. Seclusion use is reported directly to the Ministry of Health. The data is reported in the annual Director of Mental Health report. You can view a copy of the report on the Ministry of Health website: www.health.govt.nz/publication/office-director-mental-health-annual-report-2014-0

Yours sincerely



Nigel Fairley
General Manager

HEAD OFFICE