

# Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

## CORPORATE OFFICE

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Alex Harris

Email: [fyi-request-4119-fe31b684@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-4119-fe31b684@requests.fyi.org.nz);

Dear Alex

### Official Information Act request CDHB 9394

We refer to your email dated 8 June 2016 requesting the following information under section 12 of the Official Information Act 1982.

- **The number of mental health patients currently detained in seclusion units**
- **How long each has been detained for. I'm happy for this to be aggregated into bands (e.g. less than one month, 1 - 3 months, 3 - 6 months, 6 months - 1 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.**

Alternatives to seclusion have been implemented across all services and our focus on reducing the use of seclusion has shown a significant reduction over the past three years. Strong and effective nursing leadership, staff dedication and commitment help to maintain the focus on reduction.

As at Friday 10 June 2016 the Canterbury DHB had one mental health patient detained in a seclusion unit. This person was being cared for in the Forensic Mental Health Service and had been in seclusion for two days and 23 hours (including breaks).

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely



Carolyn Gullery  
**General Manager,  
Planning, Funding & Decision Support**