



26 October 2017

Health Sector Workers Network

Email: fyi-request-6623-576eb8b4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Official Information request - Personnel savings targets and efficiency gains

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 2 October 2017, requesting information in relation to "Personnel savings targets, efficiency gains and the plan for WDHB to live within our means".

Waitemata DHB's responses to the questions raised are provided below.

1. *What was the financial value of efficiency gains made by WDHB in the 2016/2017 financial year?*

The estimated financial value of efficiency gains made by WDHB in the 2016/2017 financial year was \$7.647m against a total budget of \$1.6b.

2. *What were the FTE savings targets or "embedded operational efficiency savings" for personnel costs per service and personnel category which were budgeted for the 2016/2017 financial year? (For example – what was the predicted financial value & FTE figures from personnel costs which were planned to be incorporated into the 2016/2017 efficiency gains data?)*

The estimated savings for personnel costs which were included in Waitemata DHB's savings targets and initiatives were as follows:

Initiative	Amount \$'000s
Annual leave review and management	700
Overtime reviews	1000
Corporate staff reductions (5.9 FTE)	810
Other staff cost savings e.g. reduction of staff expenses	700
Other personnel efficiencies e.g. reduction of casual staff usage	565

These savings initiatives were set as Waitemata DHB-wide targets and not specially allocated to services.

3. *What are the current predicted savings targets for personnel costs for the 2017/2018 financial year?*

The Annual Plan is still under discussion and has not yet been finalised. We have, therefore, withheld the documents relating to the savings targets for personnel costs, relying on section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982 on the basis that withholding is necessary to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by members of the Waitemata DHB Board and management in the course of carrying out their duties. We are happy to provide the information once the Annual Plan has been approved by the Minister.

4. *Please provide all relevant documents relating to the Board Workshop on 16 August 2017 detailing the Provider Arm's "Living within our means" 2017/2018 improvement programme.*

The Board workshop was part of the Board's process of preparing the Annual Plan. The Annual Plan is still under discussion and has not yet been finalised. We have, therefore, withheld the documents relating to the Board workshop, relying on section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982 on the basis that withholding is necessary to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by members of the Waitemata DHB Board and management in the course of carrying out their duties. We are happy to provide the information once the Annual Plan has been approved by the Minister.

You are entitled to complain to the Ombudsman about our decision to withhold this information. The Ombudsman's contact details can be found at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

I trust this information will satisfy your request.

Yours sincerely



Robert Paine
Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Services
Waitemata District Health Board