

13 February 2018

Antony Andrews

By email to: fyi-request-7106-ee6676fa@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Antony

Re Official Information Request - Hospital bed occupancy rates

I refer to your official information request dated 12 January 2018 for information about hospital bed occupancy rates for the period June 2007 to June 2016.

You asked for the following:

- 1. Bed occupancy rates at the public hospital/hospitals from July 2007 to June 2016. Please note that I would like monthly data on this. However, if monthly data is not available, please specify the reason.**
- 2. If monthly data is unavailable, the next preference will be quarterly data, if quarterly is not available then I will accept half-yearly. Furthermore, as last resort yearly data.**
- 3. I am also willing to accept data at random intervals within a year.**

The information you have requested is attached as an Excel spreadsheet.

We have provided bed day data by month from July 2007 to June 2016, split by location. We have provided total bed days per month. This is a count of the number of bed days, taken at midnight, that patients have spent in our inpatient beds. It is not possible to provide the bed occupancy rates for the period you have requested so we have provided bed days data for this period.

The data excludes day stay units where patients do not stay overnight. The data does not include Tupu Ora (Regional Eating Disorder Service) as this was not managed by Auckland DHB during the period requested.

Please note that our bed day data should be seen in the context of a new model of medical service in our hospitals which was implemented in December 2011. This led to better balancing of resources and reductions in the length of stay for our patients. From the beginning of 2012 we were, as a result of these improvements, recording savings of approximately 6,000 bed days per annum, while managing increased demand for beds.

I trust this information answers your questions.

You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ailsa Claire'.

Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive