28 May 2020

Amy S Van Wey Lovatt

Email: fyi-request-12108-26ab0a13@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Amy

Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) – Response – H20_21-60 – referral pathways in the Hutt Valley District Health Board (HVDHB) region

Thank you for your official information request, which was transferred from the Ministry of Health to Hutt Valley District Health Board (HVDHB) on 1 May 2020. You requested the following information:

> *"… a copy of each referral pathway for [the HVDHB region]'.*

You specified that *'[given that every DHB must "ensure that clear referral pathways are in place and known to all clinicians", clearly such policies must exist… Thus, I request… these policies.'*

On 12 May 2020, Capital & Coast District Health Board contacted you to seek an amendment to the wording of your request in order to aid both Capital & Coast and Hutt Valley District Health Board in their responses.

We advise you that there is a broad range of referral pathways across services and specialties, both between and within our DHB. Each referral pathway is specific to a specialty, and then again to the type of service required; and each pathway is different again according to the level of detail contained therein.

The current wording of the request makes no specification of which specialty's referral pathway is being sought, or the level of detail required. CCDHB requested that you get in touch with them regarding an amendment on or by 17 May 2020. As we have not heard from you regarding an amendment to the wording (or rescoping) of your request, we must refuse your request according to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act, as it is currently too broad for us to respond to without substantial collation and research.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or free phone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Fionnagh Dougan
Chief Executive
Hutt Valley District Health Board