

14 July 2020

Amy S Van Wey Lovatt

REF: IR-01-20-19114

Dear Amy,

I refer to your Official Information Act (OIA) request dated 1 July 2020 in which you requested the following:

Request 1:

The number of reports to police by District Health Boards in which there has been an allegation that a member of the public had impersonated a physician, between 1 January 2018 and 30 June 2020, inclusive.

Request 2:

The number of reports to police by District Health Boards in which there has been an allegation that a member of the public had impersonated or claimed to be a physician, and in so doing gained access to restricted areas of hospitals, including surgical theaters and medical laboratories, between 1 January 2018 and 30 June 2020, inclusive.

Request 3:

The number of reports to police by District Health Boards in which there has been an allegation that a member of the public had gained access to restricted areas of hospitals, including surgical theaters and medical laboratories, between 1 January 2018 and 30 June 2020, inclusive, while not impersonating or posing as a physician or DHB employee.

Request 4.

In the event that the number of incidents in which a member of the public impersonated a physician is more than zero, during the specified time frame, I request the following for each incident:

- (a) The name of the DHB;*
- (b) The date and time of the alleged offence;*
- (c) The Gender of the alleged offender;*
- (d) The age of the alleged offender;*
- (e) A description of the evidence to support the allegation;*
- (f) The status or outcome of the investigation, and where applicable, the District or High Court case reference details (e.g. Police v Jane Doe [2018] NZDC XXXX).*

Request 5.

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In the event that the number of incidents in which a member of the public impersonated a physician and gained access to restricted areas of a hospital is

more than zero, during the specified time frame, I request the following for each incident:

- (a) The name of the DHB;*
- (b) The date and time of the alleged offence;*
- (c) The Gender of the alleged offender;*
- (d) The age of the alleged offender;*
- (e) A description of the evidence to support the allegation;*
- (f) The status or outcome of the investigation, and where applicable, the District or High Court case reference details.*

Request 6.

In the event that the number of incidents in which a member of the public gained access to restricted areas of a hospital is more than zero while not impersonating or posing as a physician or DHB employee, during the specified time frame, I request the following for each incident:

- (a) The name of the DHB;*
- (b) The date and time of the alleged offence;*
- (c) The Gender of the alleged offender;*
- (d) The age of the alleged offender;*
- (e) A description of the evidence to support the allegation;*
- (f) The status or outcome of the investigation, and where applicable, the District or High Court case reference details.*

Breaches under Sec. 7 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 are undertaken by the Ministry of Health. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(g) of the OIA as the information is not held.

Please note that we transferred this request to the Ministry of Health but they have also refused the request under section 18(g) of the OIA as they do not hold the information.

I regret that on this occasion it has not been possible to provide the information you have requested.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with Police's response to your request.

Yours sincerely

Dr Sheree de Malmanche
Chief Data Scientist
Evidence Based Policing Centre
New Zealand Police