

28 September 2023

Katy

[fyi-request-24163-521be301@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-24163-521be301@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Katy

**Your Official Information Act request, reference: HNZ00030082**

Thank you for your email on 18 September 2023, asking for the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*“How much Senior Medical Officer (SMO) FTE is currently employed for each department in each of the different (ex) DHB regions?  
How much SMO FTE vacancies are there for each department in each of the different (ex) DHB regions?  
How many FSA (first specialist appointments) are provided by each department each year in each of the different (ex) DHB regions?  
How many follow up appointments are provided by each department each year in each of the different (ex) DHB regions?  
How many procedures are provided by each department in each of the different (ex) DHB regions? If this needs to be further classified into different procedural categories per department, this is fine.  
How much SMO FTE is allocated to triaging each year for each department in each of the different (ex) DHB regions?  
How much SMO FTE is allocated to non patient contact clinical work (e.g clinical admin/MDT) for each department in each of the different (ex) DHB regions?  
How much SMO FTE is allocated to non clinical administrative work for each department in each of the different (ex) DHB regions?”*

As it is currently worded, your request is very broad and would require a significant amount of collation. Te Whatu Ora does not hold this information at a national level. This information is held at a local level and due to differences in the way this data is stored across hospital areas, there are differences in what we can provide. While we are making good progress on bringing together the collection and reporting of data from across Aotearoa, this will take time.

On 19 September 2023, in the interests of providing you with information in a timely manner, we asked you to clarify or refine your request to the following:

*“We need to know what timeline the data is requested for, e.g. Annual/Financial year 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2022. Please note that we do not have DHBs anymore however, we can identify and collate information by hospital areas if you can mention what specific areas you want the information for.”*

On 25 September 2023 we sent a further email requesting you consider refining or clarifying your request. However, we have not received any response from you.

In order to provide a response to your request, Te Whatu Ora would need to divert personnel from their other core duties and allocate extra time to complete this task. The diversion of these resources would impact Te Whatu Ora's ability to carry out those other core functions. As such, your request is refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as it requires substantial collation.

I have considered whether fixing a charge for the supply of the information or extending the timeframe for response would enable Te Whatu Ora to respond. I do not consider that either option would remove the impact that supplying the information would have on our other operations.

### **How to get in touch**

If you have any questions, you can contact us at [hnzOIA@health.govt.nz](mailto:hnzOIA@health.govt.nz).

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Michael Cleary  
**Acting OIA Manager**  
**Government Services**