

3 February 2025

Rodney Parsons
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Tēnā koe Rodney

Your request for official information, reference: HNZ00074281

Thank you for your emails on 3 and 14 December 2024, asking Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora for the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

3 December

Let us start this game. I requested that you to provide the numbers behind government targets. You've declined ostensibly and with discretion because even with charging me, you think it will be too big. My request was for all of these because in a democratic society, putting numbers out there is generally backed up by facts rather than speculation. It appears you aren't willing to provide those willingly, since your team of advisors would have explained exactly what I'm after.

I'll refer my concerns to the ombudsman but in the interim- seeing as HNZ is still responding to requests from 2007, where lawful orders have been made which you are refusing- let's refine the question and develop a paper trail of the lack of good faith and acting in the spirit of the OIA that your answer demonstrates.

To refine my question, to which of course no doubt you'll elect to restart the clock, please provide the data for the emergency department target, but relevant subcategories. Please provide copies of the email trail to my OIA request.

14 December

The data in your publicly published national report, is what we are looking for. You already have it. Indeed, discussion with multiple teams across the country demonstrate that all of the data request are immediately available to you.

The shorter ED Stay target, as you say, is built by putting together the country's data. That what you have published in the performance target action plan, have already provided to the minister etc. When you break that data into its component pieces (which we have both seen and worked with the data ourselves, so know exists and is readily available), it breaks down into categories like regions and hospitals. These reports are already being provided by HNZ to the regions. All we are asking is that the data underlying that is provided. It's a small excel file.

If your insistence is that you're not providing that data to the regions and hospitals (which we know not to be true), provide an explanation of why not. If it's that you're not aware of that process, given that HNZ is one organisation, provide an explanation of that. If you think you don't have the data, confirm that you're willing for the ombudsman to fast-track reviewing why you aren't able to find the data, which would be pretty concerning given that it's formed one of the current government's key action plans.

Response

Your 14 December email was interpreted as amending your request to:

'the shorter ED Stay target data, broken down into categories like regions and hospitals'.

We asked you 16 January if you could advise what time period you are requesting this data to cover. We then followed up with the same question on 24 January, noting that we had not had a response and that while we appreciate you are under no obligation to amend your request, requests that are not made with due particularity s12(2) or which require substantial collation s18(f) may be refused under the Act.

Response

Your request is refused because it has not been made with due particularity s12(2) and as such is not a request for official information under the Act. We are refusing your request under section 18(g) of the Act on this basis.

How to get in touch

If you do still wish to make a refined request for this information, you can contact us again at hnzOIA@tewhatuora.govt.nz. If you do still wish to make a refined request for this information, you can contact us again at hnzOIA@tewhatuora.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 or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Nāku iti noa, nā



pp

Danielle Coe

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