

11 October 2016

H Hutchinson

Email: fyi-request-4286-2741a67a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear H Hutchinson

Re: Official Information Act request – Car-parking revenue details over last five years

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 19 September 2016 seeking the following of Waitemata District Health Board (DHB):

- Information/evidence in relation to the Auckland Region DHBs – namely ADHB, CMDHB and WDHB - and covering a time period of the last five years in regards to the following questions and requests.

Please note that Waitemata DHB is the largest DHB in the country in terms of resident population and population growth.

In order to meet the demands of our patients and their families, Waitemata DHB took out a loan to construct a new multi-storey parking building on the North Shore Hospital site, opening in late 2011. The DHB incurs interest costs and principal repayments, plus absorbs the costs of running parking services.

Currently, this car park building is nearing capacity and the DHB is in the process of planning for future growth in this area as demand for parking continues to increase.

- *What are the respective total revenues from staff and public for car parking levies in each of the last 5 years?*

Based on the car parking system reports, the total revenue from staff and public is as follows:

		From Public	From Staff	Total Revenue
2011-12		\$2,268,521	\$772,559	\$3,041,080
2012-13		\$2,624,910	\$1,351,547	\$3,976,457
2013-14		\$3,260,637	\$1,450,360	\$4,710,997
2014-15		\$3,246,243	\$1,479,714	\$4,725,957
2015-16		\$3,296,466	\$1,496,254	\$4,792,720

- *What has this revenue been used for?*

The revenue generated from car parking levies is used to cover the costs of running the car parks, paying interest and principle of debt incurred to build the car parks and to fund the further delivery of new car parking facilities.

- *Has any of this revenue been used towards DHB services other than direct car parking related services?*

No.

- *Please provide evidence to account for this revenue stream by providing accounting records. These records should show at least revenue earned, expenditure and interest of revenue gained from car parking levies over each of 5 year time period.*

The Waitemata DHB accounting records do not specifically segregate the car parking revenue, expenditure and interest of revenue gained from car parking levies. Accordingly it is not possible to provide this information.

Set out below is an estimate of the revenues and expenses relating to car parking activities:

	\$000s
Car Park Revenue	\$4,793
Operating Expenses	\$1,800
Depreciation*	\$271
Insurance*	\$15
Interest expense on Capital*	\$1,624
Net Operating Cash Flow	\$990
Cash repayment of loan (excluding depreciation)	\$729
Net Cash	\$261

*Costs related to main North Shore Hospital multi-story car park only. Costs of other parking facilities are not available.

- *Please provide evidence of consultation with public and DHB employees about car parking levies and decisions to increase levies over the last five years*

During the last five years we have amended our car parking levies three times as follows:

- In June 2013, we aligned Waitemata DHB public parking rates with that of Auckland DHB rates. This included reducing the free parking period from 30 minutes to 15 minutes.
- In March 2014, Waitemata DHB revised the grace period back to 30 minutes. Attached as Appendix I is the media release which was issued.
- In July 2016, Waitemata DHB revised our public parking rates and for the first time in five years. Staff parking rates were revised as well. Attached as Appendix II and III is the media release and social media notifications issued.

- *What exemptions or concessions are currently provided for people in financial hardship needing to use hospital services or to support a person in hospital?*

Waitemata DHB has a compassionate parking solution for those who are financially vulnerable. A multiple entry/exit ticket can be provided to families who have this need. The ticket provides a family with as many entry and exits for a one week period as they need. Some families wish

to pay something for their parking so we have set a fee of \$20 for this, but the majority of the time this is at no charge. Our records indicate that approximately 80 percent of these compassionate tickets issued are at no charge.

Please note that we allow a 30-minute grace period, resulting in around half of all vehicles entering our hospital sites without payment.

I trust this information will satisfy your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Paine', written in a cursive style.

Robert Paine
Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Services
Waitemata District Health Board

Appendix I

March 2014 Free Parking Extension media release

Appendix II

June 2016 Investing in new parking facilities to meet community needs media release

Appendix III

Social Media Notification of 5 July 2016 Car Parking Price Increase



Communications Dept
Corporate Office
Level 2, 15 Shea Terrace
Private Bag 93-503, Takapuna
Auckland 0740
Telephone: 09 486 8955

20 March 2014

Waitakere and North Shore Hospitals extend free parking period back to 30 minutes

Waitemata District Health Board is extending its free parking period at North Shore and Waitakere Hospitals from 15 back to 30 minutes from 31 March.

Waitemata DHB chief executive Dr Dale Bramley says the decision was made in direct response to feedback from patients and their families.

“We understand that visiting a hospital can be a stressful time so we want to do what we can to alleviate this for patients and their families – extending the no-charge policy back to 30 minutes is one way we can do this.”

Waitakere Health Link deputy chair Kay Lindley says as a larger portion of the population gets older and less mobile it is often not possible for patients to be picked up from hospital within a 15 minute window.

“A huge thank you to the board members for listening to the community and extending the time limit back to 30 minutes free,” she says.

Health Link North community engagement coordinator Anne Curtis says the organisation has had a number of community members, both groups and individuals, contact them over the past six months requesting for the grace period at North Shore Hospital to be extended to 30 minutes.

“We’d like to acknowledge the Waitemata DHB Board and senior management who heard the concerns of the community and acted on their behalf to ease the time and financial pressure on family and whānau members dropping off patients or collecting them after discharge. This is a very positive outcome.”

Further information on hospital parking is available at www.waitematadhb.govt.nz. Alternative travel options such as bus and rail are also available and can be found by visiting www.maxx.co.nz or calling 0800 10 30 80.

ENDS

For further information contact:

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30 June 2016

Investing in new parking facilities to meet community needs

There will be a small increase to public parking tariffs at North Shore Hospital and Waitakere Hospital from Sunday 3 July.

The increases will enable Waitemata District Health Board to invest in new parking facilities to meet the needs of the rapidly growing Waitemata population.

It will be the first increase in parking fees since Waitemata DHB introduced paid parking in 2011.

“We recognise that higher costs are never popular but it is clear that demand for parking on our sites is growing quickly,” said Chief Financial Officer Robert Paine.

“Many people already have difficulty finding a parking spot and we need to plan new parking facilities that will help meet this demand and build-in capacity for future growth.

“We must take control of this situation or access to our hospitals will become more challenged and the public will be inconvenienced by lengthy delays.”

Waitemata DHB already serves the largest population of any DHB in the country – around 585,000 people – and also has the fastest rate of population growth. Over the next decade, an additional 120,000 people are expected to call the district home.

The existing 30-minute grace period – which sees half of all vehicles exit hospital sites at no cost – will remain in place.

Ward charge nurse managers will also have discretion to provide free parking passes to those people facing genuine financial hardship or who are required to attend hospital regularly to assist with the care of friends or whanau.

The DHB has recently demolished a building on the Waitakere Hospital site to create 79 new staff parking spaces. This, in turn, will free-up spaces closer to the hospital’s main entry for public parking.

On the North Shore Hospital site, the existing multi-storey car park which opened in 2011 is nearing capacity.

The DHB is investigating options to either add additional storeys to this building or create a second multi-storey car park on the campus, potentially involving demolishing buildings.

“Five years is a long time to go without any increase and we hope the public will understand we have taken this difficult decision for good reasons,” Mr Paine said.

Appendix II

“Unfortunately, demolition and construction projects are not cheap and it’s not appropriate to use taxpayer funds allocated for health care for this purpose,” Mr Paine said.

The DHB encourages the use of public transport options as a cost-effective solution to paid parking.

Parking costs for DHB staff will also be rising by 50 cents per day to help fund new parking facilities.

From Sunday 3 July, public parking costs will be:

- 0-30 mins – FREE
- 30 mins - 1 hr - \$5
- 1-2 hrs - \$7
- 2-3 hrs \$9
- 3-4 hrs - \$10
- 4-5 hrs - \$11
- 5-6 hrs – \$13
- 6-7 hrs - \$16
- 7-8 hrs - \$20
- 8 hrs-plus - \$20
- Lost ticket - \$20
- Maximum daily charge - \$20

The tariff changes will also apply to the DHB’s Karaka Street campus in Takapuna.


ENDS

For further information contact:

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Director - Communications
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021 228 9432
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Appendix III

Facebook:

 **Waitemata District Health Board**
Published by Turei Mackey [?] · July 5 · 🌐

Sunday (3 July 2016) saw a small increase to public parking tariffs at North Shore Hospital and Waitakere Hospital.


The changes also apply to Karaka Street DHB campus in Takapuna.

The increases will enable Waitemata DHB to invest in new parking facilities and is the first increase in parking fees in three years and only the second adjustment since paid parking was introduced.

The existing 30-minute grace period, which sees half of all vehicles exit hospital sites at no cost, will remain in place.

Parking costs for DHB staff has also risen by 50 cents per day to help fund new parking facilities.

Seventy-nine new staff parking spaces have been created at Waitakere Hospital to free-up extra parking for the public, while the DHB is considering the feasibility of a second multi-storey car park, or expanding the current car park building, at North Shore Hospital.



Parking


Waitemata District Health Board (DHB) services the largest DHB by population, with more than 575,000 people in our district. Waitemata DHB provides secondary hospital and community services from North Shore Hospital, Waitakere Hospital...

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 **Waitemata DHB** @WaitemataDHB Jul 2
A small increase to public parking tariffs at North Shore Hospital and Waitakere Hospital will begin from tomorrow bit.ly/29Inqhv

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