

19 January 2021

[REDACTED]  
By email: [REDACTED]  
Ref: H202009181

Dear [REDACTED]

### Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 11 December 2020 for:

*"Data from 2019 and 2020 (the "Request Period") which identifies:*

- 1. The number of elective surgeries provided (across all surgical services), either monthly or quarterly for the Request Period, in New Zealand. Please provide this information in a form which identifies the number of elective surgeries provided by DHB. If this is not possible, please identify the number of people on waiting lists by region or, if that is not possible, nationally.*
- 2. The number of patients on waiting lists for elective surgery (across all surgical services), either by month or by quarter for the Request Period. Please provide this information in a form that identifies the number of people on waiting lists by DHB. If this is not possible, please identify the number of people on waiting lists by region, or if that is not possible, nationally."*

A response to your queries is outlined below.

*"1. The number of elective surgeries provided (across all surgical services), either monthly or quarterly for the Request Period, in New Zealand. Please provide this information in a form which identifies the number of elective surgeries provided by DHB. If this is not possible, please identify the number of people on waiting lists by region or, if that is not possible, nationally."*

The formal measure of elective delivery in New Zealand hospitals is reported through the Planned Care Interventions measure available from the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) website at the following address: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/hospitals-and-specialist-care/planned-care-services/planned-care-interventions>.

Please find the data requested in the attached document 'Appendix One'. This contains the total number of planned care interventions (including elective surgeries) provided in New Zealand from 1 January 2019 to 31 October 2020, broken down by district health board (DHB). Please note, the data for November and December 2020 is not available at the time of your request. Complete data for the 2020 year will be available in February 2021. The

data in Appendix One includes 'Inpatient Elective and Arranged Surgical Discharges' and 'Selected Minor Procedures'.

*"2. The number of patients on waiting lists for elective surgery (across all surgical services), either by month or by quarter for the Request Period. Please provide this information in a form that identifies the number of people on waiting lists by DHB. If this is not possible, please identify the number of people on waiting lists by region, or if that is not possible, nationally."*

Please find the data requested in the attached document 'Appendix Two'. This contains data regarding the number of patients waiting in the National Brooking Reporting System (NBRS) at the end of each month from 1 January 2019 to 31 October 2020, broken down by DHB. The data for November and December 2020 is not available at the time of your request. Complete data for the 2020 year will be available in February 2021. Please note that patients may wait for elective surgery for longer than one month therefore these numbers should not be summed to give annual totals.

I trust this fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Yours sincerely



 Robyn Shearer  
**Deputy Director-General**  
**DHB Performance and Support**

**Table One. Number of planned care interventions (including elective surgeries) provided from 1 January 2019 to 31 October 2020***Extracted from NMDS and NNPAC on 14 December 2020*

DHB of Domicile	2019												January to	2020										01 January to 31
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	December 2019	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	October 2020
Auckland	1,430	1,777	2,064	1,861	2,188	2,053	2,072	2,106	2,001	2,021	2,120	1,697	23,390	1,577	1,838	1,686	783	1,816	2,074	2,071	1,902	2,088	2,015	17,850
Bay of Plenty	1,200	1,321	1,668	1,351	1,558	1,375	1,582	1,592	1,424	1,543	1,528	1,291	17,433	1,364	1,371	1,304	616	1,255	1,657	1,620	1,627	1,692	1,612	14,118
Canterbury	2,009	2,255	2,353	1,968	2,559	2,413	2,736	2,608	2,338	2,453	2,564	2,602	28,858	2,661	2,175	2,748	1,466	3,229	3,490	3,885	3,695	4,018	3,581	30,948
Capital and Coast	938	1,070	1,330	1,091	1,227	1,104	1,241	1,318	1,298	1,204	1,329	1,120	14,270	1,140	1,321	1,120	615	1,259	1,435	1,572	1,384	1,492	1,366	12,704
Counties Manukau	2,116	2,464	2,622	2,404	2,981	2,562	2,974	3,021	2,977	2,898	3,042	2,297	32,358	2,537	2,785	2,514	1,113	2,569	3,267	3,099	2,632	3,099	3,036	26,651
Hawkes Bay	650	690	775	659	857	716	963	1,001	943	931	977	832	9,994	827	867	872	332	790	977	937	971	1,038	988	8,599
Hutt Valley	593	568	714	655	677	700	703	678	720	700	715	649	8,072	666	784	718	336	639	780	881	826	926	791	7,347
Lakes	388	462	560	491	558	566	589	617	523	575	571	522	6,422	459	505	456	270	537	611	677	669	702	705	5,591
MidCentral	926	828	1,040	943	1,258	970	1,206	1,194	1,190	1,036	1,107	970	12,668	1,053	1,130	987	554	1,020	1,137	1,282	1,183	1,241	1,112	10,699
Nelson Marlborough	860	747	995	889	1,007	874	1,181	1,166	1,104	1,208	1,300	1,079	12,410	1,059	983	989	618	1,007	1,185	1,292	1,160	1,198	1,158	10,649
Northland	760	822	1,014	933	1,180	980	1,120	1,116	1,034	1,124	1,046	921	12,050	910	1,008	906	428	941	1,145	1,247	1,127	1,152	1,002	9,866
South Canterbury	273	362	370	326	413	325	358	363	392	395	375	310	4,262	321	336	366	150	288	423	450	421	473	385	3,613
Southern	1,525	1,510	1,902	1,517	1,897	1,621	2,181	2,042	1,969	1,961	1,977	1,523	21,625	1,933	1,507	1,277	549	1,795	1,651	1,988	1,729	1,754	1,726	15,909
Tairāwhiti	241	264	290	243	291	251	309	301	251	240	258	255	3,194	171	246	234	52	227	299	300	268	311	280	2,388
Taranaki	441	542	594	600	645	533	646	713	593	748	745	686	7,486	668	711	737	325	738	779	853	765	794	800	7,170
Waikato	1,506	1,814	2,007	1,905	2,092	1,967	2,301	2,155	2,093	2,259	2,231	1,690	24,020	1,784	1,956	1,866	814	1,901	2,264	2,380	2,230	2,344	2,189	19,728
Wairarapa	241	279	325	286	319	326	341	301	309	302	290	297	3,616	296	282	267	141	309	301	308	318	276	289	2,787
Waitemata	2,453	2,528	2,898	2,587	3,150	2,799	2,953	3,069	2,883	2,989	3,032	2,586	33,927	2,654	2,896	2,724	1,312	2,357	2,720	2,986	2,946	2,994	3,096	26,685
West Coast	236	231	254	245	283	249	270	284	319	237	316	272	3,196	310	293	190	128	260	355	316	292	280	355	2,779
Whanganui	445	456	534	456	564	449	519	574	469	417	430	396	5,709	396	475	418	209	453	482	529	519	530	526	4,537
<b>National Total</b>	<b>19,231</b>	<b>20,990</b>	<b>24,309</b>	<b>21,410</b>	<b>25,704</b>	<b>22,833</b>	<b>26,245</b>	<b>26,219</b>	<b>24,830</b>	<b>25,241</b>	<b>25,953</b>	<b>21,995</b>	<b>284,960</b>	<b>22,786</b>	<b>23,469</b>	<b>22,379</b>	<b>10,811</b>	<b>23,390</b>	<b>27,032</b>	<b>28,673</b>	<b>26,664</b>	<b>28,402</b>	<b>27,012</b>	<b>240,618</b>

Table One. Number of patients in the 'National Booking Reporting System' for elective surgery from 1 January 2019 to 31 October 2020

DHB Name	2019												2020									
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
Auckland	5,910	5,995	5,841	5,656	5,569	5,256	5,288	5,325	5,369	5,380	5,459	5,819	5,818	6,157	6,244	6,476	6,025	6,126	6,347	6,583	6,749	6,891
Bay of Plenty	3,112	3,239	3,314	3,302	3,227	3,330	3,211	3,243	3,311	3,386	3,482	3,623	3,497	3,425	3,360	3,542	3,379	3,311	3,244	3,104	3,219	3,322
Canterbury	3,013	3,125	3,023	3,198	3,719	3,724	4,555	4,158	3,882	3,937	3,881	4,175	4,213	4,372	4,801	5,227	4,727	4,642	4,860	4,880	4,750	4,874
Capital and Coast	2,982	2,952	2,774	2,814	2,747	2,770	2,752	2,737	2,789	2,837	2,810	2,857	2,849	2,905	3,014	3,027	2,770	2,768	2,838	2,945	3,102	3,217
Counties Manukau	3,366	3,320	3,279	3,188	2,959	3,022	2,968	3,014	2,919	2,980	3,164	3,233	3,023	3,025	3,294	3,300	2,969	2,928	3,118	3,324	3,240	3,093
Hawkes Bay	1,461	1,411	1,407	1,465	1,402	1,384	1,416	1,400	1,490	1,566	1,562	1,666	1,499	1,515	1,642	1,740	1,651	1,553	1,809	1,841	1,972	2,116
Hutt Valley	1,588	1,686	1,687	1,748	1,821	1,926	1,997	2,192	2,244	2,209	2,298	2,376	2,248	2,298	2,338	2,271	2,255	2,325	2,291	2,444	2,556	2,474
Lakes	784	841	843	865	977	924	1,006	942	932	891	910	985	1,053	1,069	1,189	1,161	1,029	1,006	930	948	935	987
MidCentral	1,761	1,758	1,836	1,821	1,790	1,874	1,750	1,836	1,870	1,823	1,819	1,906	1,923	2,018	2,057	2,037	1,991	2,046	1,958	1,906	1,824	1,733
Nelson Marlborough	1,154	1,260	1,224	1,240	1,159	1,148	1,068	1,035	1,067	1,144	1,124	1,125	1,138	1,153	1,266	1,327	1,113	1,060	1,088	1,173	1,251	1,310
Northland	2,323	2,334	2,385	2,339	2,576	2,678	2,749	2,886	2,887	2,663	2,634	2,672	2,708	2,635	2,708	2,699	2,659	2,681	2,721	2,796	2,917	3,017
South Canterbury	624	665	685	689	680	681	698	667	611	536	526	472	477	522	503	522	551	560	533	481	446	474
Southern	2,788	2,879	2,970	3,014	3,091	3,285	3,103	3,163	3,312	3,352	3,338	3,566	3,645	3,468	3,489	3,693	3,428	3,374	3,347	3,441	3,598	3,629
Tairāwhiti	237	220	234	316	330	323	309	316	298	323	394	417	434	421	459	477	417	394	437	464	502	535
Taranaki	1,597	1,656	1,724	1,835	1,735	1,724	1,685	1,677	1,622	1,586	1,655	1,644	1,596	1,709	1,659	1,652	1,531	1,523	1,652	1,769	1,944	2,009
Waikato	5,078	4,821	4,768	4,624	4,777	4,498	4,470	4,562	4,585	4,664	4,627	4,801	4,931	4,886	4,821	5,240	4,907	4,549	4,386	4,115	4,116	4,240
Wairarapa	373	386	390	401	445	475	484	466	452	431	403	389	358	335	318	309	281	283	317	302	291	314
Waitemata	3,984	4,046	4,147	4,237	4,355	4,268	4,206	4,241	4,311	4,400	4,488	4,801	4,811	5,026	4,969	4,777	4,772	4,993	4,994	4,800	4,903	4,977
West Coast	208	215	251	259	231	213	259	287	276	297	267	264	249	276	312	353	290	260	339	329	356	355
Whanganui	831	866	859	910	897	866	801	720	736	643	634	644	606	602	587	585	504	536	558	602	682	707