

13 January 2021

Ethan Griffiths
NZME



100 Heads Road, Private Bag 3003
Whanganui 4540, New Zealand

Via email: ethan.griffiths@nzme.co.nz

Dear Ethan

Official Information Act Request – OIA 13279 Number of Residents and Beds in Te Awhina

On 10 December 2020, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

- The number of patients/residents Te Awhina Mental Health Care Facility is designed to accommodate at any given time, taking into account aspects such as funding, to the number of rooms within the facility.
- A full breakdown of the number of occasions Te Awhina Mental Health Care Facility has been over-capacity within the last calendar year from the date of receipt of this request. I ask that this information be broken down by date and number of patients/residents on each particular occasion of overcrowding.

The information sought in this request is to be used as part of a report by the Whanganui Chronicle/NZ Herald into incidents of overcrowding at Te Awhina Mental Health Care Facility in Whanganui.

It is understood elements of the requested information might not be considered public information. If this is the case, I would ask each element is considered separately, described as best it can be and reasons for any information being declined being set against the information sought.

There may be aspects of the information sought which require names to be redacted to meet section 9(2)(a) of the Act. In situations such as this, I would ask you indicate the employer and position of the person whose name is redacted for the purposes of clarity.

Whanganui District Health Boards response:

- **The number of patients/residents Te Awhina Mental Health Care Facility is designed to accommodate at any given time, taking into account aspects such as funding, to the number of rooms within the facility.**

Essentially this is a 12 bed unit, funded appropriately and well-staffed for that cohort; overflow capacity is achieved.

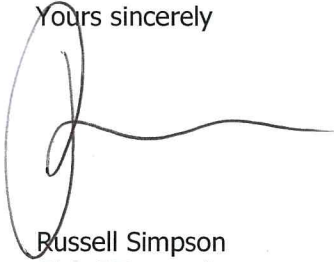
This Unit has a history of not ever declining care unless the bed-state is so extreme that beds are accessed in other Rohe or in the rare case whanau members are admitted contemporaneously.

- **A full breakdown of the number of occasions Te Awhina Mental Health Care Facility has been over-capacity within the last calendar year from the date of receipt of this request. I ask that this information be broken down by date and number of patients/residents on each particular occasion of overcrowding.**

See Appendix **1**.

Should you have any further queries about the above information, please contact our OIA co-ordinator Anne Phoenix at anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop on the left and a long, horizontal, wavy line extending to the right.

Russell Simpson
Chief Executive

Appendix 1.

Te Awahina Daily Bed Occupancy (if over 100%) 8 December 2019 - 14 December 2020
Capacity = 12 beds

Date	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20
1			110%					110%					150%
2			120%					130%					130%
3		110%	160%	110%			120%	110%					120%
4		120%	120%	110%									120%
5		120%	120%	120%		110%					110%		
6		130%	110%	120%		110%		140%					
7		140%						110%			120%		110%
8		140%											140%
9	110%	150%		110%				110%					130%
10	130%	120%	110%							130%			110%
11	130%	120%								120%			120%
12	120%	110%							110%				120%
13		150%	110%						110%	130%			110%
14		140%								150%			110%
15		150%			110%		120%						
16	120%	140%			120%		130%	130%		110%			
17	130%	140%					120%	130%	120%				
18	110%	110%					110%		130%				
19	110%	110%					110%		120%				
20		110%	130%		120%	120%		110%	120%		140%		
21		130%		110%	110%	110%		120%	110%	110%	140%		
22		110%			120%	120%		120%		110%	160%		
23	120%	130%						120%			130%		
24	120%	130%				110%	110%	110%				110%	
25		110%				120%		110%				110%	
26		140%				130%		110%				120%	
27	120%	120%	120%			120%		120%	110%		130%	140%	
28		130%				120%		110%			120%	140%	
29	130%	120%						110%			120%	140%	
30	130%	130%				110%		110%			120%	140%	
31		160%				110%						150%	