

09 May 2019

Re: Official Information Act

Dear _____

I am responding on behalf of Hauora Tairāwhiti (Tairāwhiti DHB) to your OIA Request of 6 May regarding consultants working on Maternity Wards.

Our response to your request:

I would like to request information about the hours worked by senior doctors/consultants in your maternity wards. If this information needs to be treated as an OIA request please feel free to do so.

How many consultants/senior doctors are rostered on and physically present on your hospital maternity wards on Saturdays and Sundays and between 10pm and 8am during the week?

A rostered Consultant is available week days and weekends 24 hours per day. They are in house during the day and as needed. They may not be physically present in the ward in the evenings and weekends but are quickly available when needed.

If consultants/senior doctors are rostered on to work in the ward on the weekend, what times do their shifts start and end? (ie, is there someone there at all times?)

Our Consultants do not work shifts but are available at all times.

What times are consultants/senior doctors rostered on until during the week? (ie, is there someone there at all times?)

Our Consultants are available at all times. (see above).

Why are/why aren't consultants/senior doctors present/not present on the ward at all times?

During the day our Consultants may work in their office if not required on Maternity. Hauora Tairāwhiti has a small maternity unit, and consultants are often not needed to be present. Consultants are always available immediately by phone.

Are senior doctors/consultants on call for help on the maternity ward during the weekend and between 10pm and 8am on weekdays?

Our Consultants are always on call to help on the Maternity Ward.

How quickly are any on call-doctors expected to be able to be at the hospital?

Our on-call Consultants will be at the Hospital within 20 minutes, some can be there sooner.

If senior doctors/consultants are not on the ward at all times, who is available to provide care to women when they are not present? (midwives, junior doctors etc)

Consultants make rounds each morning so aware of women in house. Midwives are always available. Our Maternity Ward has no Junior Doctors. Consultants are called when needed.

If you are not satisfied with this response you may contact the Office of the Ombudsmen, phone 0800 802 602.

Please note this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Hauora Tairāwhiti DHB website. Your personal/identifying information will be redacted from any responses published.

If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Ngā mihi,

Briar Hunter
Communications Advisor
Hauora Tairāwhiti