

9 January 2019

Email: _____

Dear ' _____)

Re: Official Information Act

I am responding on behalf of Hauora Tairāwhiti (Tairāwhiti DHB) to your OIA Request of 10 December regarding Fax Machines

Please see our response to your questions below:

We would like to know how widely used fax machines are in New Zealand's public health system to understand how we compare to the UK. We therefore request the following information:

The number of fax machines owned by the DHB

21

The number of fax machines purchased in the 2017/18 financial year, and the cost of the same

Nil purchased in 17/18

Whether facsimile are regularly used in your DHB's hospitals, and if so, what for (we seek only a general description of the clinical, or administrative processes that rely on sending or receiving facsimile on a day-to-day basis);

Used for general communications to various parties, and at times specifically for transfer of patient confidential info

Any advice, analysis or planning documents in the last 12 months about phasing facsimile out by upgrading to more modern IT systems.

Hauora Tairāwhiti has implemented SEEMail a secure encrypted e-mail service (as per the MoH instruction), and can now securely send patient information by e-mail to other SEEMail sites.

I trust that the above information answers your request.

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

Yours sincerely



Briar Hunter
Communications Advisor