

21 July 2022

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Your Official Information Act request - Forensic mental health assessments

Thank you for your Official Information Act request which was transferred from Auckland DHB on 23 June seeking information from the former Waitematā DHB on the number of mental health assessments conducted for the courts.

Before responding to your specific questions, it may be useful to provide some context about our services.

Waitematā is the Northern Region provider of forensic mental health services, providing integrated forensic mental health service to courts, prisons and general mental health services from Bombay to Cape Reinga.

This catchment population comprises nearly two million people.

In response to your request, we are able to provide the following information:

- 1. Court reports: Please advise whether your forensic mental health service keeps track of this distinction, i.e., which section of the Act a mental health assessment is conducted under (or whether it is pre- or post-conviction).**

Waitematā's Regional Forensic Psychiatry Services (RFPS) has been manually collecting data on the different type of reports ordered by the court since the beginning of 2020.

- 2. If so, can you please advise how many mental health assessments were conducted for the courts in 2021, post-conviction i.e. under section 38 (1)(c) and (d).**

In 2021, of the 807 mental health assessment that were completed for the courts by RFPS, 145 assessments were recorded as "pre-sentence" reports under section 38(1)(c) and (d) of the Criminal Procedure (Mentally Impaired Persons) Act 2003.

As there is no centralised database of this information, it has been provided by collating manually recorded information.

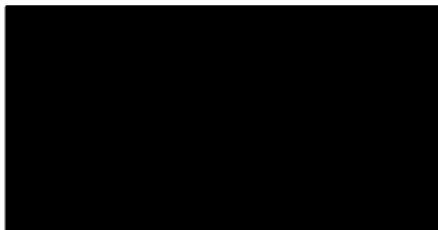
I trust that this information is helpful.

Waitematā supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publicly funded healthcare.

This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released.

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

Yours sincerely



**Director, Specialist Mental Health and Addictions Services
Te Whatu Ora Health NZ Waitematā**