

5 April 2023

██████████  
Via email: ██████████

Tēnā koe ██████████

**Your Official Information Act request, reference: HN200014054 – Outsourcing orthopaedic surgery**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 16 March seeking information from Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand Waitematā about outsourced orthopaedic surgery.

Waitematā is the largest and one of the most rapidly growing areas in the country and the largest employer across North Shore, Waitakere and Rodney - serving a population of around 650,000 and employing more than 8,900 people across more than 80 locations.

In addition to providing care to our own resident population, we are the Northern Region provider of forensic mental health services and child rehabilitation services, plus the metro Auckland provider of child community dental services and community alcohol and drug services.

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

**As recommended by the Planned Care Taskforce:**

**1. What are the reasons for not outsourcing orthopaedic surgery?**

Waitematā operates the Elective Surgical Centre (ESC), which provides additional capacity. This allows us to insource surgeries.

More information about the ESC is available on our website at:

<https://www.waitematadhb.govt.nz/hospitals-clinics/north-shore-hospital/elective-surgery-centre/about/>

In addition, Waitematā is currently building a new facility on the North Shore Hospital campus, Tōtara Haumarū, which will open in 2024.

This facility addresses a lack of capacity across the Northern Region for inpatient beds, operating theatres and endoscopy rooms. The project will increase capacity for both Waitematā and the region. It will include:

- eight surgical theatres, including associated pre and post-operative facilities and clinical support services
- four 30-bed inpatient wards on two floors with shelved space for a fifth ward providing 120-150 beds in total.

Information about Tōtara Haumarū is also available on our website at:

<https://www.waitematadhb.govt.nz/hospitals-clinics/totara-haumaru-new-hospital-updates/>

## 2. What strategies are being put in place to outsource orthopaedic surgery?

As above, Waitematā operates the ESC, which provides additional capacity to allow us to insource surgeries and, in addition, is building a new facility to increase surgical capacity within our district.

I trust that this information is helpful.

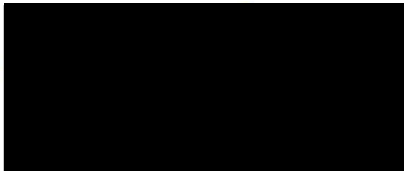
### How to get in touch

If you have any questions, you can contact us at [hnzOIA@health.govt.nz](mailto:hnzOIA@health.govt.nz).

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Te Whatu Ora may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available on our website.

Nāku iti noa, nā



**Brad Healey**  
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**Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand Waitematā**