



**Hospital Services**

North Shore Hospital Campus  
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5 October 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: Official Information Act request 18150 - information about ED vouchers**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018, seeking information from Waitemata District Health Board (DHB) on:

**The number of vouchers given out at each ED, from 1 January to 31 August 2018. What proportion of presentations this was and the associated cost.**

The voucher scheme enables us to ensure that patients who present with low-acuity health issues are able to be seen in a timely way and in a clinical setting appropriate to their condition. It has also assisted in cementing productive working relationships with our neighbouring accident and medical clinics. We refer you to the tables below in response to your question.

North Shore Hospital

Year	No of vouchers given out	Proportion of Presentations	Actual Cost
2018	5071	10.46%	\$350,000 - \$400,000

Waitakere Hospital

Year	No of vouchers given out	Proportion of Presentations	Actual Cost
2018	2976	7.63%	\$200,000 - \$250,000

We have provided a range in relation to actual cost as this information is commercially sensitive and, therefore, withheld under s9(2) (b) (ii) of the Official Information Act 1982.

I trust this response satisfies your request. However, you are entitled to make a complaint to the Ombudsman, whose details are available via [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz), if you are dissatisfied.

Waitemata DHB, like other agencies across the state sector, supports the open disclosure of information to assist the public's 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 feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely

**Cath Cronin**  
Director Hospital Services  
Waitemata District Health Board