



11 July 2019



Dear

Re: Official Information Act request – Auckland Regional Dental Service vacancies

Thank you for your Official Information Act request of 1 July 2019 seeking the following of Waitematā District Health Board (DHB):

The FTE and headcount numbers of dental therapists/oral health therapists, dental assistants and patient care assistants employed by Auckland Regional Dental Service (ARDS), divided by team.

The current vacancies (FTE) each ARDS team currently has.

The Auckland Regional Dental Service (ARDS) provides oral health and dental services to approximately 273,000 preschool and school-aged children, up to and including school year eight students, living in the Auckland metropolitan area. The service is managed by Waitematā DHB on behalf of the three Auckland metropolitan DHBs (that is, Auckland DHB, Counties Manukau Health and Waitematā DHB).

In response, please see the tables below in the format that you have requested. Please note: the vacancies are as at 4 July 2019.

Team: ARDS Management	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	7	5.4	0.0
Dental Assistants	0	0.0	0.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	0.0
Total	7	5.4	0.0

Team: Dental North 1 North Rodney-East Coast Bays	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	15	13.8	0.0
Dental Assistants	11	10.2	0.0
Patient Care Assistants	2	1.5	0.0
Total	28	25.5	0.0

Team: Dental North 2 Albany-Devonport	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	14	12.0	2.3
Dental Assistants	10	10.0	2.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	0.0
Total	24	22.0	4.3

Team: Dental North 3 Henderson-West Rodney	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	14	11.9	1.6
Dental Assistants	11	11.0	0.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	1.0
Total	25	22.9	2.6

Team: Dental North 4 New Lynn-Glen Eden	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	16	14.6	0.0
Dental Assistants	11	10.0	2.0
Patient Care Assistants	1	0.9	0.0
Total	28	25.5	2.0

Team: Dental Central 1 Avondale-Onehunga	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	12	11.0	2.4
Dental Assistants	14	13.1	0.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	0.0
Total	26	24.1	2.4

Team: Dental Central 2 Ponsonby-St Heliers	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	13	12.0	1.8
Dental Assistants	9	8.6	1.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	1.0
Total	22	20.6	3.8

Team: Dental Central 3 Glen Innes-Otahuhu	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	14	13.1	1.4
Dental Assistants	8	8.0	1.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	0.0
Total	22	21.1	2.4

Team: Dental South 1 Franklin-Papakura	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
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Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	16	15.2	3.2
Dental Assistants	15	15.0	0.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	0.0
Total	31	30.2	3.2

Team: Dental South 2 Alfriston-Wiri	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	10	9.2	2.6
Dental Assistants	14	13.8	0.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	0.0
Total	24	23.0	2.6

Team: Dental South 3 Otara-Papatoetoe	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	11	11.0	1.8
Dental Assistants	11	11.0	1.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	1.0
Total	22	22.0	3.8

Team: Dental South 4 Beachlands-Pakuranga	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	15	13.6	0.0
Dental Assistants	13	13.0	1.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	0.0
Total	28	26.6	1.0

Team: Dental South 5 Mangere-Papatoetoe North	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	13	11.4	1.0
Dental Assistants	12	12.0	0.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	0.0
Total	25	23.4	1.0

In addition, the roles in the table below are to deliver a new oral health service to pregnant women within Auckland DHB. Recruitment to these positions is currently underway.

Team: Auckland Central	Employed [Headcount]	Employed [FTE]	Vacancies [FTE]
Dental Therapists/Oral Health Therapists	0	0.0	1.0
Dental Assistants	0	0.0	2.0
Patient Care Assistants	0	0.0	0.0
Total	0	0.0	3.0

Recent analysis undertaken indicates that there are a number of reasons staff are choosing to leave the service. The primary reasons include retirement, moving out of Auckland and moving to work in private practice. In order to address this, the service is:

- Implementing additional supports for new and recent graduates.
- Identifying opportunities to develop new roles and introduce new models of care.
- Partnering with staff to offer more flexibility in location and hours of work.
- Identifying strategies to enable dual trained (dental therapy and hygiene) therapists to maintain competency across both scopes of practice.
- Encouraging dental assistants/patient care assistants to participate in Career Force training.

I trust that this information meets your requirements. Waitematā 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cath', written in a cursive style.

Cath Cronin
Director Hospital Services
Waitematā District Health Board