



**Waitematā**  
District Health Board  
**Best Care for Everyone**

**DHB Board Office**  
15 Shea Terrace  
Takapuna, Auckland 0622  
Private Bag 93-503, Takapuna  
North Shore City 0740  
Telephone: 09 486 8900  
Facsimile: 09 486 8924  
[www.waitematahnb.govt.nz](http://www.waitematahnb.govt.nz)

18 February 2021



Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: OIA request – Medical evacuations and repatriation related to COVID-19**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received as a partial transfer from the Ministry of Health on 9 February 2021 seeking information from Waitematā District Health Board (DHB) about costs incurred due medical evacuations or repatriations in relation to COVID-19.

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

Waitematā is the largest and one of the most rapidly growing DHBs in the country, serving a population of around 650,000 across the North Shore, Waitakere and Rodney areas. We are the largest employer in the district, employing around 8,500 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:

- 1. The total number of New Zealand citizens and permanent residents who required medical evacuation and/or medical repatriation to New Zealand related to the COVID-19 pandemic during the calendar year of 2020, including the country they were evacuated/repatriated from, and the cost to the Ministry of Health of each case.**

Waitematā DHB has not incurred any costs in relation to either a medical evacuation or medical repatriation of New Zealand citizens or permanent residents from other countries due to COVID-19.

I trust that this information is helpful.

Waitematā DHB 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



**Chief Financial Officer**  
**Waitemata District Health Board**