



26 August 2021



Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: OIA request – Number of psychologists employed by Waitematā DHB**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 29 July seeking information about the number of psychologists employed by Waitematā District Health Board (DHB) and their pay scales.

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 8,600 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 at 21 June 2021:

**1. How many psychologists does the DHB employ, both in body count and full-time equivalent FTE?**

Waitematā DHB employs 82 psychologists or 60.6 FTE.

**2. How many psychologists who are APEX members are on the APEX MECA pay scale between steps 1-9?**

**3. How many psychologists who are APEX members are on the APEX MECA pay scale on steps 10 and above?**

There are a total of 80 psychologists who are APEX members. Please see the following table in response to questions 2 and 3.

Waitematā DHB psychologists on APEX MECA pay scale steps	
APEX steps	Staff numbers
1-9	49
10-16	31
<b>Total numbers</b>	<b>80</b>

**4. How many psychologists on step 10 or above on the APEX MECA pay scale applied for merit progression, applying for a one-step increase?**

There are 15 staff on step 10 or above on the APEX MECA pay scale who applied for a one-step merit progression increase.

**5. How many psychologists on step 10 or above on the APEX MECA pay scale applied for merit progression, applying for more than a one-step increase?**

Where numbers are three or fewer (and not zero), we have withheld this information under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 to protect the privacy of the individuals concerned. We have considered whether the public's right to know this information outweighs the need for privacy and have determined that it does not.

**6. How many psychologists on step 10 or above on the APEX MECA pay scale were successful in their merit application for more than a one-step increase?**

Where numbers are three or fewer (and not zero), we have withheld this information under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 to protect the privacy of the individuals concerned. We have considered whether the public's right to know this information outweighs the need for privacy and have determined that it does not.

**7. How many psychologists between steps 1-9 on the APEX MECA pay scale applied for accelerated advancement as per clause 9(a)?**

Where numbers are three or fewer (and not zero), we have withheld this information under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 to protect the privacy of the individuals concerned. We have considered whether the public's right to know this information outweighs the need for privacy and have determined that it does not.

**8. How many psychologists between steps 1-9 on the APEX MECA pay scale were successful in their application for accelerated advancement as per clause 9(a), and how many steps were they awarded?**

Where numbers are three or fewer (and not zero), we have withheld this information under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 to protect the privacy of the individuals concerned. We have considered whether the public's right to know this information outweighs the need for privacy and have determined that it does not.

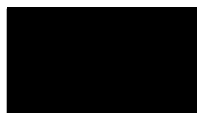
I trust that the information I have been able to provide is helpful.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Ombudsman. Information about how to seek a review is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Freephone 0800 802 602.

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



**Executive Director Finance, People and Planning**  
**Waitematā District Health Board**