



Hospital Services

North Shore Hospital Campus
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26 July 2018



Dear

Re: OIA request – Maternity beds and length of stay

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 6 July 2018 seeking the following of Waitemata District Health Board (DHB):

1. *“How many hospital beds there were in the maternity ward in 2018 - Jan 1 to June 30 - compared with the calendar year in 2017 and 2016.*

Waitemata DHB cares for the largest patient population of any DHB in New Zealand, currently standing at just over 630,000 people, and operates two maternity facilities – one at North Shore Hospital and one at Waitakere Hospital.

North Shore Hospital has four assessment beds, 10 birthing rooms and 36 antenatal/postnatal beds. Waitakere Hospital has two assessment beds, eight birthing rooms and 26 antenatal/postnatal beds. The number of beds has remained unchanged in 2016, 2017, 2018.

2. *What was the average length of stay for women in Waitemata DHB's maternity ward, quarterly, from Jan 1 2016 to June 30 2018, if recorded”*

The table below details the average length of stay in days on the maternity ward (after birth) by hospital site 2016 – 2018.

Date	Waitakere	North Shore
Jan - Mar 2016	1.21	2.28
Apr - Jun 2016	1.24	2.56
Jul - Sep 2016	1.19	2.51
Oct - Dec 2016	1.16	2.37
Jan - Mar 2017	1.23	2.36
Apr - Jun 2017	1.16	2.40
Jul - Sep 2017	1.19	2.31
Oct - Dec 2017	1.22	2.28
Jan - Mar 2018	1.15	2.36
Apr - Jun 2018	1.24	2.32

Please note: Waitakere Hospital has a shorter length of stay as women with the most complex pregnancies tend to give birth at North Shore Hospital; North Shore Hospital has a higher caesarean section rate and this impacts length of stay.

I trust that this information meets your requirements. 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cath', followed by a period.

Cath Cronin
Director Hospital Services
Waitemata District Health Board