



25 May 2021



Dear [REDACTED]

Re: OIA request – Number of times DHB has challenged coronial findings

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 15 May 2021 seeking information from Waitematā District Health Board (DHB) about the number of times we have challenged the Coroner's findings following an inquest.

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:

1. **How many times has your DHB challenged a coroner's findings after an inquest in each of the following years? 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021.**
2. **For cases from 2017 onward:**
 - please give an overview of the case and the name of the patient concerned
 - what points were challenged, and why
 - how much did the DHB spend on its challenge in each of these cases?

Waitematā DHB has not challenged any coronial findings in the years from 2011 to 2021.

I trust that this information is helpful.

Waitemata 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



Senior Legal Counsel
Waitemata District Health Board