

23 March 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: OIA request - Number of psychologists employed**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received 18 February 2022, seeking information from Waitematā District Health Board (DHB) about the number of psychologists employed, turnover, vacancies, distribution and the location of staff.

On 17 March, we contacted you to advise that as our clinicians, managers and staff were concentrating on efforts to manage the current COVID-19 outbreak in the region, we were extending the timeframe on providing a response and would do so by 25 March.

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 more than 8,900 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. Current employed psychologist FTE and headcount and a table showing how many psychologists are employed on each step of the scale.**

The table below shows the number of psychologists (including psychology interns) employed on each step of the scale, by both headcount (n) and FTE.

Step	Headcount (n)	FTE
1	4	3.60
2	4	3.30
3	6	4.70
4	5	3.40
5	3	3.00

Step	Headcount (n)	FTE
6	4	3.50
7	3	2.10
8	4	2.10
9	8	5.30
10	10	6.40
11	8	6.50
12	10	8.00
13	10	7.80
14	5	3.40
15	1	0.60
16	1	0.90

## 2. Employed psychologist turnover from 1 February 2021 to 1 February 2022.

Like any large organisation, Waitematā DHB experiences and anticipates staff turnover each year. Staff may resign from their role for a number of reasons, including: family and/or personal reasons; new work opportunities or moving out of Auckland.

The average turnover for psychologists working at Waitematā DHB over the period 1 February 2021 and 31 January 2022 was 11.9 per cent (please note: this excludes staff who retired or moved internally within the organisation).

## 3. Current number of vacant FTE for psychologists

Across the Waitematā DHB, there were 6.40 FTE psychology vacancies as at 31 January 2022.

## 4. How the total FTE of psychologists employed by the DHB is distributed and the location where the FTE is based.

The table below shows the distribution of psychologists across Waitematā DHB, noting that the data does not take any vacant positions into account.

In some instances, a psychologist could work across multiple locations. The table below provides an overview of the team they support primarily.

Service	Number of psychologists per service	FTE
<b>Mental Health Services</b>		
<b>Adult Mental Health Services</b>		<b>22.70</b>
<i>North Community Mental Health</i>		7.3
<i>West Community Mental Health</i>		4.7
<i>Rodney Community Mental Health</i>	28	4.1
<i>Waiataru IPU</i>		3.0
<i>He Puna Waiora IPU</i>		2.6
<i>Liaison Psychiatry</i>		1.0

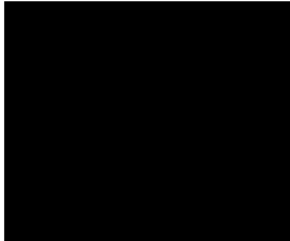
Service	Number of psychologists per service	FTE
<b>Child Adolescent Mental Health Services</b>		<b>12.70</b>
<i>Marinoto North</i>		3.6
<i>DBT</i>		0.4
<i>Marinoto West</i>		4.4
<i>Infant Team</i>	17	0.8
<i>Maternity Team</i>		1.0
<i>Early Psychosis</i>		1.0
<i>IYSS</i>		1.0
<b>Regional Psychiatric Forensic Service</b>	14	<b>11.55</b>
<b>Mental Health Services for Older Adults</b>		<b>5.90</b>
<i>Kingsley Mortimer Unit (KMU)</i>		1.30
<i>North community</i>	10	1.20
<i>West community</i>		1.50
<i>Rodney community</i>		1.40
<i>Sub-acute Treatment and Rehabilitation (STAR) team</i>		0.5
<b>Community Alcohol and Drug Service</b>		<b>3.40</b>
<i>Pregnancy &amp; Parental Service</i>		0.7
<i>Youth Services</i>	5	0.6
<i>Across other CADS services</i>		1.7
<i>Clinical Advisor</i>		0.6
Takanga A Fohe	2	<b>1.2</b>
Mental Health Management <i>Psychology Professional &amp; Clinical Lead</i>	1	<b>0.85</b>
Whitiki Maurea	1	<b>1.00</b>
<b>Physical health</b>		
Diabetes	1	<b>0.50</b>
Cardiology	1	<b>0.40</b>
Pain Clinic	1	<b>0.90</b>
Cancer Services	3	<b>2.3</b>
Wilson Centre	1	<b>0.6</b>

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



**Director People and Culture  
Waitematā District Health Board**