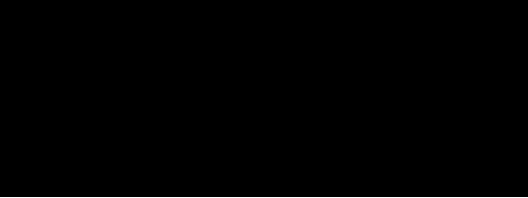


22 March 2022



Dear 

**Re: OIA request – Hospital alert system**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 25 February seeking information from Waitematā District Health Board (DHB) about hospital alert systems.

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:

**Does the DHB use a traffic light-type alert mechanism to assess general busyness measures such as occupancy e.g. green, yellow, orange, red, black alerts, and if so, what were the alert colours from 1 Jan 2022 to the present listed by colour and dates?**

Waitematā DHB has a green, amber, red alert system in place which is used on a daily basis for both North Shore and Waitakere hospitals.

North Shore and Waitākere hospitals use a Demand Response Framework, which ensures that each service is responsible for managing increases in capacity and a clear escalation pathway is followed to ensure an early response during periods of fluctuating demand. It provides an objective assessment process with clear role accountabilities and communication.

The framework is as follows:

- Green – business-as-usual: adequate capacity in all areas.
- Amber – moderate: busy but flowing.
- Red – severe: occupied beds full; limited or slow movement to ward beds.

A “Whole-of-Hospital Huddle” is held each weekday morning, attended by all services, that

identifies our status at the start of the day. If we are in Status Alert Red and look to be facing significant challenges by 11.00am, a contingency meeting with senior staff is set-up for early afternoon to plan and mitigate any potential risks going into the evening.

These standard operating responses ensure that our hospitals remain safe for patients and all aspects of patient care and hospital operations are routinely monitored and responded to.

Of note, for some of these days, the hospitals would not have been in the Alert Status Red for a full 24-hours. This means that the information provided below shows that the hospitals were at Alert Status Red at some point within the 24-hour period.

Each day, we continually work on plans to manage capacity and, following implementation, the alert status is often downgraded to Amber or Green within that period.

**Table 1: Alert status for North Shore Hospital and Waitakere Hospital from 1 to 27 January 2022**

Date	Hospital	Status
01-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
01-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Green
02-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Green
02-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
03-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
03-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
04-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
04-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
05-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
05-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
06-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
06-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
07-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
07-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
08-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
08-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
09-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
09-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
10-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
10-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Green
11-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
11-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
12-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
12-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
13-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
13-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
14-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
14-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
15-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
15-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
16-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
16-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red

Date	Hospital	Status
17-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
17-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
18-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
18-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
19-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
19-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
20-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
20-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
21-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
21-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
22-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
22-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
23-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
23-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
24-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
24-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
25-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
25-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
26-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
26-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
27-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
27-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
28-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
28-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
29-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
29-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
30-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
30-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
31-Jan-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
31-Jan-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
01-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
01-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
02-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
02-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
03-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
03-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
04-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
04-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
05-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
05-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
06-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Green
06-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
07-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
07-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
08-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
08-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red

Date	Hospital	Status
09-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
09-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
10-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
10-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
11-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
11-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
12-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
12-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
13-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
13-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
14-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
14-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
15-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
15-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
16-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
16-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
17-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
17-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
18-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
18-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
19-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
19-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
20-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
20-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
21-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
21-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
22-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
22-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Red
23-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
23-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
24-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Red
24-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
25-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
25-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
26-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
26-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber
27-Feb-22	North Shore Hospital	Amber
27-Feb-22	Waitakere Hospital	Amber

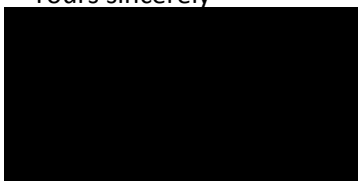
I trust that this information is helpful.

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



**Executive Director Hospital Services  
Waitematā District Health Board**