



15 February 2022

██████████
Email: ██████████

Dear ██████████

Thank you for your request dated 14 January 2022 for information pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982. ██████████

██████████ your updated request is for the following information:

“... if DHBs could provide numbers of complaints related to cancer misdiagnoses, or delayed diagnoses (delayed by a year).”

We can confirm **two** cases that are within the scope of your request, however we are unable to confirm any others without significant time and resource to review historic files. This would require clinical staff to review individual files taking them away from their frontline work, and therefore would prejudice the DHBs ability to provide core healthcare services.

We have considered whether charging or extending the timeframe for responding to this aspect of your request would assist us in managing this work and have concluded it would not.

We therefore refuse the request over and above what has been provided pursuant to Section 18(f) of the OIA because your request requires substantial collation and research.

Waikato DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publically-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.

You have the right to request the Ombudsman investigate and review the decision to withhold the information. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Christine Lowry
Executive Director – Hospital and Community Services
Waikato District Health Board