



7 June 2022

[Redacted]

By way of email only: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Official Information Act request:

Further to your letter dated 01 March made under the Official Information Act 1982. As you have been previously notified your request was being transferred from the Ministry of Health to District Health Boards for a response.

Specifically, you requested:

Can ministry of health please email me aggregated staff investigations of assaults on patients ie staff fired, investigated and resigning before being fired / criminal charges being laid / withdrawn by victim?

I note that the Ministry of Health has advised that you would need to contact Archives NZ for information predating the establishment of DHB's and I also wish advise that under the DHB's General Disposal Authority we are only required to retain General Staff and Health & Safety files for a period of 7 years.

The table below contains information held by Waikato DHB for the past 7 years. We have extracted this information from Datix which is the incident management system used at Waikato DHB.

2016	-
2017	-
2018	<5
2019	<5
2020	<5
2021	<5
2022	<5

Please note <5 indicates that we have had instances of reported inappropriate behaviour of a staff member towards a patient that were investigated, however as per sections 18(a) and 9(2)(e) of the Official Information Act of 1982 information can be withheld "to protect the privacy of natural persons and this is not outweighed by any public interest in its release".

None of these internal investigations resulted in a staff member resigning.

We do not hold information of any criminal charges laid therefore as per section 18(e) of the Official Information Act we are refusing this question as the information does not exist.

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



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.

I trust this answers your query.

Yours sincerely



Jacquie Sherborne
Acting Executive Director Organisational Support
Waikato District Health Board