

06 August 2019

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

Official Information Act (1982) Request

I write in response to your Official Information Act request, dated 17 July 2019. You requested the following information for a speech you are preparing on mental health services available to youth:

- **The number of people under the age of 18 that have been admitted to Middlemore Hospital in the last 12 months for a mental illness-related reason.**

The CM Health Mental Health and Addiction Service have advised there have been no cases of people under the age of 18 years admitted to the acute mental health unit (Tiaho Mai) in the last 12 months.

In part, the reason for no youth admissions in the unit is because it is for the care of adults. There are a small number of admissions each year, for those aged 18 years. Please note, because it is unusual for young people to be in the unit, if this does occur anyone admitted to Tiaho Mai who is aged 18 years old and under will have an assigned staff member as a 1:1 carer for their support, safety and supervision.

CM Health has two mental health specialist multidisciplinary services for children and young people living in the Counties Manukau region, which are both community based teams. More information about these teams is publicly available via HealthPoint:

- <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/mental-health-addictions/mental-health-addictions/counties-manukau-health-taunaki-te-puawaitanga-1/>

Young people may present at the Middlemore Hospital Emergency Department with a range of health and illness needs, including some that related to mental health. In some of these cases, they will then be admitted to our general hospital wards to address a physical health consequence of a mental health condition. However, without more specific diagnostic details (examples of mental illness include depression, anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, eating disorders and addictive behaviours), it is not possible for us to isolate the number of those admissions with a mental illness component as a primary reason for the admission.

Specialist inpatient child and youth mental health services are provided for the metro-Auckland region by Starship Hospital and Auckland District Health Board. The service is called the Starship Paediatric Child and Family Unit (CFU), and is a supra-regional acute psychiatric child and adolescent mental health inpatient unit hosted by Auckland District Health Board. CFU admits young people aged from 13 - 18 years with significant mental health concerns, or suspected mental illness from the upper region of the North Island. It is also the specialist mental health inpatient unit for children aged less than 13 years for the North Island. Auckland DHB will hold information on the numbers of those admissions to the unit for young people residing in the Counties Manukau region.

I trust this information satisfactorily answers your query. If you are not satisfied with this response you are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau DHB website.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Apa', is positioned above a light blue horizontal line.

Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health