

15<sup>th</sup> February 2021

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

### **Official Information Act Request for – Admissions to Aged Residential Care**

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021, you requested the following information:

- 1. Does Counties Manukau DHB have goals, targets, or objectives for current or future admissions to Aged Residential Care? These targets could be expressed in terms of an absolute numbers, annual percentage changes, or changes in age-specific ARC utilisation rates.**

**If the answer is yes, could you please supply documents or links to web pages and documents.**

- 2. Has Counties Manukau DHB analysed the cost of providing home support to older people with high or complex needs compared to the cost of funding them in aged residential care? As an indication, we are referring to older people with scores of 4 or 5 on the interRAI MAPLE scale, or 2 or above on the ADL Hierarchy scale, in their most recent interRAI Home Care assessment.**

**If the answer is yes, could you please provide a copy of the report. If that is not possible, please provide:**

- The name of the study or report**
- when it was completed (most recently if there have been several)**
- a brief outline of the scope of the study**
- the principal findings of the study.**

### **Counties Manukau Health Response:**

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 7,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 569,400 people). We see over 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year, and over 2,000 visitors come through Middlemore Hospital daily.

Our services are delivered via hospital, outpatient, ambulatory and community-based models of care. We provide regional and supra-regional specialist services i.e. for orthopaedics, plastics, burns and spinal

services. There are also several specialist services provided including tertiary surgical services, medical services, mental health and addiction services.

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CM Health does not have goals, targets or objectives for current or future admissions to Aged Residential Care. Individuals assessed as eligible for Aged Residential Care by the CM Health Needs Assessment and Service Co-ordination Team (NASC) can enter an aged residential care facility of their choice.

- 2. Has Counties Manukau DHB analysed the cost of providing home support to older people with high or complex needs compared to the cost of funding them in aged residential care? As an indication, we are referring to older people with scores of 4 or 5 on the interRAI MAPLE scale, or 2 or above on the ADL Hierarchy scale, in their most recent interRAI Home Care assessment.**

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On a regular basis CM Health monitors utilisation of Home and Community Support Services which includes monitoring volumes of clients receiving high cost packages of support and relevant interRAI indicators etc. CM Health has not however undertaken any formal study or developed reports that compares them to aged residential care. It is important to note that service users have a choice of the range of supports that may best enable them to live their lives as independently as possible. Home based support and residential care are not necessarily substitutions. The role of needs assessment is to find the best option that fits the needs of service users at the time of assessment. As you may well be aware, these needs can change over time.

I trust this information answers your request. You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau Health website. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely



**Fepulea'i Margie Apa**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Counties Manukau Health**