

13th December 2021

s9(2)(a)
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Dear s9(2)(a)
[Redacted]

Official Information Act Request for – Surveillance of Staff

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 15th November 2021, you requested the following information:

Under the Official Information Act, please provide information, including but not limited to emails, applications, reports, meeting minutes, memos, data, audiovisual materials and correspondence to/from the DHB about:

- 1. Any policy regarding the covert surveillance of staff.**
- 2. The number of times there have been applications for surveillance of staff.**
- 3. The number of times there have been approvals for surveillance of staff.**
- 4. The circumstances in which any surveillance of staff would be permissible.**
- 5. No date range – these questions apply to as far back as the DHB can search IT systems**

Counties Manukau Health Response:

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 8,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 601,490 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.

1. Any policy regarding the covert surveillance of staff.

CM Health has not undertaken covert surveillance of staff.

Our DHB operates closed circuit television (CCTV) at some of our DHB site to enable us to fulfil our safety and security commitments and obligations. CCTV is used to survey concealed areas in order to monitor patient and visitor movements and activities both inside and outside, especially in high-risk areas and for the safety and security of our property, staff, patients and visitors.

2. **The number of times there have been applications for surveillance of staff.**
3. **The number of times there have been approvals for surveillance of staff.**
4. **The circumstances in which any surveillance of staff would be permissible.**
5. **No date range – these questions apply to as far back as the DHB can search IT systems**

In response to questions 2 to 5, we have not had any applications for surveillance of staff. All CCTV requests have been for post incident events and are used as part of an investigation.

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 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