

19th February 2021

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request for – Number of Births

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 18th January 2021, following discussion with our Eligibility team you requested the following information:

- **How many other women gave birth while been stranded in New Zealand in your hospital, as I believe that this maybe the only case and in that situation discretion should apply.**

We sought clarification from you on the 18th January 2021 requesting the date range your request relates to, your response was as follows:

- **“I am looking for the period starting from when the international borders closed in March 2020 to when his child was born in June 2020, I am specifically looking for the number of births at Middlemore hospital”**

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.

- **How many other women gave birth while been stranded in New Zealand in your hospital, as I believe that this maybe the only case and in that situation discretion should apply. I am looking for the period starting from when the international borders closed in March 2020 to when his child was born in June 2020, I am specifically looking for the number of births at Middlemore hospital**

Table 1 below reflects all non-resident births from 1st March 2020 to 30th June 2020. We cannot differentiate between whether these births are for woman who were visitors to New Zealand or whether they are here under alternative circumstances.

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Number of Non-Resident births	8	9	6	10	33

Table 1: Data Source Eligibility Team (27/01/2021)

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