



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

Corporate Office
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6 August 2018

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RE Official information request WCDHB 9163

We refer to your Official Information Act request to the Ministry of Health dated 5 June 2018. The Ministry of Health subsequently transferred question 2 to West Coast DHB on 21 June 2018. I note your request was clarified on 27 June 2018 as:

1. Number of deaths from suicide while person was in any form of state DHB care (voluntary and under THE ACT) over last 10 years?

We can only comment on Mental Health. From 2008 – 2017 there were two deaths following AWOLs (absent without leave) from the Mental Health Inpatient Unit (IPU). Considerable time had lapsed between the time of AWOL and the established date of death. i.e. longer than three weeks. (Both subsequently went through the Coroners Court and were determined as suicides.)

2. All self-harm/ attempted suicide over last 10 years within the DHB's Mental Health Services' care (under Act or not)

We are declining a response to this question under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act i.e. The West Coast DHB's current systems do not capture this information.

3. Number of deaths from suicide following admission to MH services collated as follows:

a. MH general

Please see answer to question 1

b. MH ICU

c. General ICU

The West Coast DHB does not have a Mental Health ICU or a General ICU.

If you disagree with our decision to withhold information you may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek an investigation and review of our decision from the Ombudsman.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the West Coast DHB website ten working days after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carolyn Gullery', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support