

30 March 2020

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Re Official Information Request – Elective surgery impact post White Island

I refer to your official information request dated 25 February 2020 requesting the following information.

I am seeking the following information under the Official Information Act:

The number of elective surgeries/procedures which were;

- 1. Rescheduled**
- 2. Postponed**
- 3. Cancelled**

directly related to the White Island incident, between December 9 and February 1.

As well as outlining the total figure impacted during this time period, can you please break this down by outcome (as indicated above) and what department they were under, for example: cardiology, gynaecology..

Please also answer the following:

Is the DHB still feeling the impacts of the pressure on services as a result of the event?

If so, where is this being experienced most acutely? I.e. were there particular departments most impacted by the event and its fallout?

Have delays or amendments to elective surgeries impacted wait lists? How was this being mitigated?

Response

The number of elective surgeries/procedures which were directly related to the White Island incident, between December 9 and February 1.

Service	Rescheduled	Postponed	Cancelled
Starship	4		

Is the DHB still feeling the impacts of the pressure on services as a result of the event?

Starship is still feeling the impact somewhat. As a provider of many national services, it is not easy to catch up on a waitlist when it has been extended. No other areas of the DHB are still being impacted by this event.

If so, where is this being experienced most acutely? I.e. were there particular departments most impacted by the event and its fallout?

n/a

Have delays or amendments to elective surgeries impacted wait lists? How was this being mitigated?

Starship - Minimal delays were experienced, with minimal impact on waitlists.

I trust this information answers your questions.

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 response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive