



Re **Official Information Request for pager systems – “beepers” – for medical staff**

I refer to your Official Information Act request of 10 December 2018 for the following information:

1. ***the number of pagers used and owned by the DHB, and what these are used for (including how regularly they are used); and***
2. ***any advice, analysis or planning documents in the last 12 months about phasing out pagers by upgrading to more modern communications systems; and***
3. ***any advice, or analysis in the last 12 months about the reliability of the DHB's paging systems.***

We have provided the information under each of your questions below.

1. ***the number of pagers used and owned by the DHB, and what these are used for (including how regularly they are used)***

Pagers are not recorded in the fixed asset register due to the low cost of these items. healthAlliance noted a total of 310 pager rentals charged to various departments for December 2018. The pagers are being used by staff for daily operations management.

2. ***any advice, analysis or planning documents in the last 12 months about phasing out pagers by upgrading to more modern communications systems***

The Auckland DHB is currently scoping a capital plan to source an alternative solution for paging equipment.

3. ***any advice, or analysis in the last 12 months about the reliability of the DHB's paging systems.***

The paging system is outmoded technology but effective and reliable for a specific range of uses including messaging and communicating alerts. Enhanced products would be able to undertake the basic function of pagers and provide the opportunity for communicating additional information within the restraints of the Auckland DHB security policy.

I trust this information answers your questions.

You are entitled under the Official Information Act to seek a review of this response. 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