

23 July 2019



Re Official Information Request – Transfer of babies and mothers between DHBs

I refer to your official information request dated 2 July 2019 requesting the following information:

I'm looking at the situation where expectant mothers and/or newborn babies are transferred to out-of-town DHBs because the neonatal wards in their own area are at capacity.

How often have expectant mothers and/or newborn babies been transferred from Auckland DHB to DHBs outside the Auckland area?

No mother or baby has been transferred from Auckland DHB to DHBs outside Auckland area due to NICU capacity.

Why were they transferred? (e.g. because neonatal ward was at capacity, or because DHB does not ordinarily have the facilities needed in a particular case)

No mother or baby has been transferred.

Where were they transferred to?

Not Applicable.

Were any transferred to Australia?

No

Can you please tell me the occupancy rates for your neonatal wards over the past three years?

Average NICU Occupancy by Year, 2016-2018

Years	Total
2016	87%
2017	85%
2018	86%
Grand Total	86%

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