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Your Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 28 September 2022 requesting information around elective surgery / planned care wait times for Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand Waikato.

- **How many people are on a waiting list for planned care in Te Whatu Ora Waikato?**

Waitlist for Planned Care Current as at 11 October 2022	
ESPI 2 - FSA	12405
ESPI 5 - Surgery	7043

Information supplied for planned care relates to the Elective Surgery Performance Indicators (ESPI) 2 and ESPI 5 criteria.

- **Please provide a breakdown by priority level**

Urgency	1	2	3	4
ESPI 2 - FSA	895	5407	5032	989
ESPI 5 - Surgery	1356	1429	2802	1456

Note: There are 72 patients wait listed for an outpatient appointment from non-contact/ virtual assessment not included in the priority levels above.

- **How many of the people waiting for planned care have been waiting more than 4 months, 6 months, and 1 year?**

	More than 4 months	More than 6 months	1 year or greater
	Patients	Patients	Patients
ESPI 2 - FSA	4211	2347	598
ESPI 5 - Surgery	3178	1871	420

Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand Planned Care Taskforce (the Taskforce) directed districts to actively tackle long waiting lists. ESPI 5 patients waiting over 12 months for surgery have now been scheduled, and ESPI 2 patients waiting over 12 months for FSA have now been scheduled.

- **What is the longest time someone has been waiting? What kind of surgery is this for (eg specialty, procedure) and how long have they been waiting?**

The longest waiting time for inpatient surgery is 980 days. This patient's surgery is scheduled for early November 2022. The long wait was not due to availability of service, but is linked to patient availability.

- **How many people are on active review?**

As per Ministry of Health directives 'Active review' status was discontinued July 2022.

- **How many of those people have been on active review for more than a year?**

N/A.

- **What is the current average wait time in Waikato for the following procedures - hip replacement, knee replacement, tonsillectomy, grommets, cataract surgery:**

<i>Days on Waitlist as of 11 October 2022</i>	
<i>Procedure</i>	<i>Average Days</i>
<i>Hip replacement</i>	<i>148</i>
<i>Knee replacement</i>	<i>181</i>
<i>Tonsillectomy</i>	<i>113</i>
<i>Grommets</i>	<i>86</i>
<i>Cataract surgery</i>	<i>107</i>

- **How many in-house planned care procedures have been done in the past 12 months at Te Whatu Ora Waikato / Waikato DHB?**

A total of 21,986 planned care procedures have been completed in the past 12 months.

- **How much has Te Whatu Ora Waikato / Waikato DHB spent on in-house planned care in the past 12 months?**

Te Whatu Ora Waikato does not capture how much is spent on in-house planned care in a way that is easily reported. Due to the substantial amount of work that would be required to research and collate the information you have requested, we are refusing your request pursuant to section 18(f) of the OIA. We have considered whether charging or extending the timeframe for responding to your request would help, as required by section 18(a) of the OIA. However, it would not help as it would directly impact on the Te Whatu Ora Waikato operations.

- **How many outsourced planned care procedures have been done in the past 12 months at Te Whatu Ora Waikato / Waikato DHB?**

A total of 2,009 planned care procedures were outsourced by Te Whatu Ora Waikato in the past 12 months.

Note: Te Whatu Ora Waikato utilises a mix of fully outsourced lists to the private providers and facility lists whereby Te Whatu Ora Waikato provides the staffing of these lists.

- **How much has Te Whatu Ora Waikato / Waikato DHB spent on outsourced planned care in the past 12 months?**

A total of \$22,550,933 was spent on outsourced planned care in the past 12 months.

How to get in contact: If you have any questions, you can contact us via email - oi_contact@waikatodhb.health.nz . Also linked here please refer to our website for general information and guidance regarding the Official Information Act - <https://www.waikatodhb.health.nz/about-us/official-information-act/> .

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available by phoning 0800 802 602 or at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand Waikato has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on our website found here <https://www.waikatodhb.health.nz/about-us/official-information-act/>. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release.

Yours sincerely



Christine Lowry (she/her)

**Interim District Co-Director - Tumu Whakahaere ā Takiwā
Waikato**