

16 March 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

### Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request made under section 12 of the Official Information Act 1982, which we received as a transfer from the Ministry of Health on 8 March 2022.

You have requested the following information:

***“I would like to have the cost related to treating a Covid Patient in these cases***

- ***ICU/HDU***
- ***Normal ward***
- ***Cost of nurses visiting patients not in hospital***

***Can these costs be put in a spread sheet for one day on average cost also importantly the average time each patient is in these states.”***

Ward	Bed Cost per Hour	Average Time in Ward per Patient (Hours)
ICU	\$ 268.22	278
HDU	\$ 78.20	43
Normal Ward (Ward A2)	\$ 45.51	85

Please note ICU/HDU is based on COVID-19 patients who have been admitted into these units. The majority of COVID-19 positive patients have been admitted into Ward A2. The ward cost in the table above relates to this group of patients.

We are unable to provide data on *“cost of nurses visiting patients not in hospital”* as we cannot gather this information easily via our systems and this would therefore require significant time and resource. Review of individual files would take staff away from their work and would prejudice the DHB’s ability to provide core services.

We have considered whether charging or extending the timeframe for responding to this aspect of your request would assist us in managing this work and have concluded it would not.

We therefore refuse this part of your request pursuant to Section 18(f) of the OIA because your request requires substantial collation and research.

You have the right to request the Ombudsman investigate and review the decision to withhold the information. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Waikato DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publically funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Christine Lowry', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Christine Lowry**

Executive Director – Hospital and Community Services  
Waikato District Health Board