

1 March 2022

Response to a request for official information

Thank you for your request for official information as transferred from the Department of Internal Affairs and received 22 December 2021 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, followed by a necessary extension of time 10 February 2022, where you seek the following information:

1. How many recorded assaults on health staff have there been in 2021?

NMH response: 128.

2. How many recorded incidents of verbal abuse or threats have there been on health staff in 2021?

NMH response: 85.

3. How many days have been lost due to staff taking time off after being assaulted in the same time frame?

NMH response: This information is not held in a form that is readily retrievable from our reporting systems and, under section 18(f) *'the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research'*. It would take a significant amount of time and resources to extract and manually review individual staff files to collate this information.

This response has been provided under the Official Information Act 1982. You have the right to seek an investigation by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or free phone 0800 802 602. If you have any questions about this decision please feel free to email our OIA Coordinator OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz. I trust that this information meets your requirements. NMH, like other agencies across the state sector, supports the open disclosure of information to assist the public's understanding of how we are delivering publicly-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. If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider.

Yours sincerely



Lexie O'Shea
Chief Executive

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board