

Facilities : Security
Proactive Release: 14 November 2019

01 November 2019

9(2)(a)

E-mail: 9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Official Information Act (1982) Request

I write in response to your Official Information Act request, dated 15 October 2019. You requested the following information:

- **The number of people who have been trespassed from Counties Manukau Health hospitals, in the last five years**

Please break this down by:

- *year,*
- *hospital,*
- *what they were trespassed for (i.e. aggressive behaviour),*
- *how long they were trespassed for, and*
- *if there have been any breaches.*

For context, Counties Manukau Health provides health services to more than 540,000 people residing in South Auckland, both in hospitals and community settings. Each year, more than 118,000 people attend our Emergency Department, and many others are on our premises to attend appointments or visit family/ friends staying in hospital. We are constantly working to create a safe work environment for everyone, and we do not condone any inappropriate behaviour toward our staff and other patients.

Details of the total number of notices issued each year since mid-2015, and to date in 2019 are below (Table 1). These all originated at Middlemore Hospital site. There has only been one notice in 2019, and we have had no recorded breaches in 2018 or 2019.

| Year | Total Trespass Notices issued |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| 2015/16 | 15 |
| 2016/17 | 26 |
| 2017/18 | 10 |
| 2018/19 | 9 |

Table 1

The most common reasons recorded for issuing notices were for loitering, theft, assault of a staff member, and breach of the peace (such as verbal abuse, threats of violence, and aggressive behaviours/fighting). Trespass notices are currently usually issued for a two-year period

CM Health will only issue a trespass notice in exceptional circumstances. Where possible, we will work to address and de-escalate any situations that are causing difficulties. People issued with such notices will still be able to receive emergency medical and mental health care.

I trust this information satisfactorily answers your query. If you are not satisfied with this response you are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau DHB website.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Apa', with a stylized flourish above the name.

Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health