

15<sup>th</sup> February 2021

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

### **Official Information Act Request for – Art in DHB**

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021, you requested the following information:

- 1. How many pieces of art does the DHB own? Art includes any artwork, including drawings, paintings, sculptures, statues, photographs, or any other types of art.**
- 2. Please state what the art is – eg a painting, who the artist is, whether the art was donated or purchased, and the value of the artwork. If a sculpture or statue, what or who does the art depict?**
- 3. If the artwork was purchased, how much did it cost to buy and when was it bought?**
- 4. What is the combined total value of all of the DHB's art?**
- 5. Where is the artwork housed? Eg, which hospital, building, wing, ward?**
- 6. Has the DHB ever donated or loaned any art and if so to who, when, for how long and why?**
- 7. Is the art insured and if so for how much? Has any art ever been stolen and if so was it recovered?**
- 8. Has any of the art ever been damaged and repaired and if so when, and how was it damaged?**
- 9. Has the DHB ever undertaken an art audit and if so when?**
- 10. What is the benefit to patients of the artwork?**

### **Counties Manukau Health Response:**

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 6,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 595,590 people). We see over 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year, and over 2,000 visitors come through Middlemore Hospital daily.

Our services are delivered via hospital, outpatient, ambulatory and community-based models of care. We provide regional and supra-regional specialist services i.e. for orthopaedics, plastics, burns and spinal services. There are also several specialist services provided including tertiary surgical services, medical services, mental health and addiction services.

CM Health has a relationship with the Wallace Arts Trust through which we are able to source an amazing collection of artwork on loan; we do not own any of this artwork and have an understanding that we will return any pieces back to the Trust as and when required. This means we do not have a need to purchase artwork for the DHB.

In addition to working with Wallace Arts Trust, we have a number of pieces of artwork around the hospital from public or corporate donations.

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In response to questions one to five, while the Wallace Arts Trust has an extensive collection, on very rare occasions areas may need a specific image.

The Galbraith Infusion Centre for Cancer Services has purchased one print which is framed. The purchased piece is an image of Rangitoto Island in Auckland and was purchased online for approximately \$70.00, the artist is Diana Adams.

We do not hold information of the value of all of the artwork in the DHB. To further expand and collate the information requested in questions one through five it would take frontline staff away from their core duties over some weeks. We are therefore declining elements of your request under Section 18(f) of the Official Information Act due to substantial collation and research.

6. **Has the DHB ever donated or loaned any art and if so to who, when, for how long and why?**  
CM Health does not donate or loan artwork.
7. **Is the art insured and if so for how much? Has any art ever been stolen and if so was it recovered?**  
We do not have any specific insurance related to artwork. We are unaware if any artwork has been stolen.
8. **Has any of the art ever been damaged and repaired and if so when, and how was it damaged?**  
In a busy hospital, with artwork being placed on corridor walls there is the potential for general wear and tear despite careful monitoring of this. No purchased art work has been damaged. Any damage to loaned artwork is repaired via the Wallace Arts Trust.
9. **Has the DHB ever undertaken an art audit and if so when?**  
CM Health has an administrator who works with the Wallace Arts Trust regularly to manage the portfolio of artwork.
10. **What is the benefit to patients of the artwork?**

Artwork on the walls of clinical spaces create a welcoming and calming environment for patients, visitors and staff. Art can reduce patient's anxiety or discomfort by providing a distraction. Art and environment-based photography is particularly beneficial to areas that do not have access to natural light.

I trust this information answers your request. 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau Health website. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Fepulea'i Margie Apa', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

**Fepulea'i Margie Apa**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Counties Manukau Health**