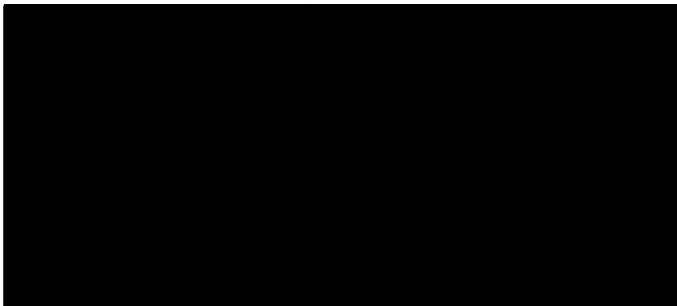


8 April 2021



Re: Official Information Act request – Staffing of Covid vaccination programme

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 16 March 2021 requesting the following information:

- **How many people are currently employed for the Covid-19 vaccination programme?**
- **Have any of those staff been seconded from other roles in the DHBs? As above. If so, what areas have they come from and has their usual roles been back-filled?**
- **How many school nurses have been redeployed to work for the Covid-19 vaccination programme? Will their roles be back-filled?**
- **How many school nurses will be redeployed for the covid vaccination programme as the roll-out continues?**

I am responding on behalf of the Northern Region Health Coordination Centre (NRHCC), the COVID-19 response and vaccination team set up by the Northland, Waitematā, Auckland, and Counties Manukau DHBs.

1. How many people are currently employed for the Covid-19 vaccination programme?

As at 16 March 2021, up to 181 workforce were employed for the COVID-19 vaccination programme.

2. Have any of those staff been seconded from other roles in the DHBs? As above. If so, what areas have they come from and has their usual roles been back-filled?

Yes, 101 staff have been seconded from other roles in the DHBs. The areas these staff have come from are Administration, Allied Health, Inpatient and Public Health and Child Health Community Nursing. Roles have been backfilled where services have not been able to pause.

3. How many school nurses have been redeployed to work for the Covid-19 vaccination programme? Will their roles be back-filled?

41 Public Health Nurses PHNs from Community School programmes have been deployed, with the majority now returned as newly recruited and trained staff fill positions. As these PHNs were deployed, some programmes were paused or didn't proceed at the same level during these deployments. In some instances other providers stepped in to continue services.

4. How many school nurses will be redeployed for the covid vaccination programme as the roll-out continues?

As the workforce strategy for employment of dedicated COVID vaccination staff in the Northern region is rolled out, we do not expect to have an on going reliance on Public Health School Nurses.

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

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

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive of Te Toka Tumai (Auckland District Health Board)