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23 November 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: OIA Request – Data on age of mothers who gave birth**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 5 November 2020 seeking information from Waitematā DHB about the age of mothers who have given birth since 2017.

We contacted you by phone on 06 November to advise that we would provide the information requested (below) in age bands to avoid breaching patient privacy. You agreed to this approach and confirmed this by email on 12 November.

Before responding to your specific questions, it may be useful to provide some context about our services.

Waitematā DHB serves a population of more than 630,000 across the North Shore, Waitakere and Rodney areas, the largest and one of the most rapidly growing DHBs in the country. We are the largest employer in the district, employing around 8,500 people across more than 80 locations.

In addition to providing services to our own population, we are also the metropolitan Auckland provider of forensic psychiatry, child disability services, child community dental services and community alcohol and drug services.

In response to your request, we can provide the following information:

**I am writing to request data on the age of mothers who gave birth in DHB facilities between 2017 and this year. Can you please provide the age of the youngest and oldest woman to give birth in each of 2017, 2018, 2019 and so far this year?**

In order to prevent the identification of individual mothers, we can provide the aggregated data for the number of mothers less than 17 years old and more than 45 years old at the time they gave birth for the calendar years from 2017 to 01 November 2020.

Year	Age <17	Age >45	Total births
2017	7	5	6840
2018	13	6	6604
2019	16	5	6956
2020	14	10	5702*

\*Year-to-date

I trust that this information is helpful.

Waitematā DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community 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 consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider your views.

Yours sincerely



**Mark Shepherd**  
**Director Provider Healthcare Services**  
**Waitematā District Health Board**