



**Waitemata**  
District Health Board  
Best Care for Everyone

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### **Health and safety requirements force limits on public access to jetty**

Due to the requirements of new health and safety legislation, Waitemata DHB is advising its neighbours that it will need to make changes to public access to the Lake Pupuke jetty behind North Shore Hospital.

Before Christmas, the DHB plans to place a gate on the end of the jetty preventing access to comply with the legislation. The decision was taken by the Waitemata DHB Board at its public meeting on Wednesday, 21 September.

The DHB is the owner of the jetty and may be held liable in the event a member of the public accessed the jetty and came to harm.

Head of Corporate Services Robert Paine said the DHB realised the local community had been using the jetty for many years and that many considered it a piece of shared infrastructure.

"The law is very clear about our obligations and we must comply," he said.

"A one-way locking gate will be put on the jetty. This means that lake-users will still be able to use the jetty as an emergency exit point from the lake if needed. However, it will not be possible for people to gain entry from the hospital side of the gate."

Mr Paine said the DHB had considered the appropriateness of installing safety rails but this would not address all the health and safety obligations.

The purpose of the jetty is to allow maintenance access to a water intake pipe running underneath the structure which would supply the hospital's fire pumps if needed.

The DHB is also erecting signage warning of the risk of suction at the end of the jetty in the event the fire pumps needed to begin drawing water. Signage will also be put in place at the gate.

ENDS

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