# **Corporate Services**



14 March 2022

Dear

## YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT (1982) REQUEST HBDHB REF: 0IA2022021

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 25 February 2022 where you requested information from Hawke's Bay District Health Board (HBDHB). Your questions and HBDHB's response is provided below:

Does the DHB use a traffic light type alert mechanism to assess general busyness measures such as occupancy eg green, yellow, orange, red, black alerts, and if so, what were the alert colours from 1 Jan 2022 to the present listed by colour and dates?

Hawke's Bay District Health Board has an escalation plan to respond to increasing pressures of demand on the hospital system. The escalation plan is 'colour coded' from mauve (where there is more than enough capacity and staff) through to green (where capacity matches demand). Successively higher levels of escalation, yellow and amber through to red, occur when there is the greatest pressure on available resources. Hawke's Bay DHB does not have a code black.

Escalation is a process where patient demand and resource capacity is actively reviewed and managed with appropriate actions being taken to maintain patient and staff safety. The escalation process can occur as a result of a significant trauma event resulting in a number of critically unwell patients arriving into ED, through to higher than anticipated levels of ED presentations and the number of people requiring hospital admission as a result.

Please see attached data showing the escalation colours by date from 1 January 2022 to 10 March 2022. This is whole of hospital escalation.

I trust this information meets your needs. If you would like any further information or clarification please phone me. If you are not satisfied with this response you may contact the Office of the Ombudsman, phone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Hawke's Bay DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

Chris Ash

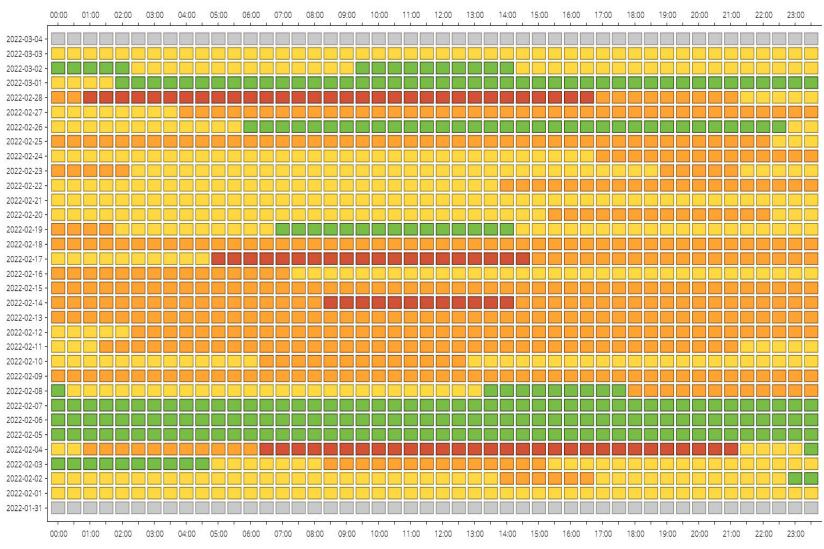
Chief Operating Officer

cc: Ministry of Health via email: SectorOIAs@moh.govt.nz oia@hbdhb.govt.nz

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### Variance Response Management Status Report

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