

13 January 2021

Ethan Griffiths
NZME



Via email: ethan.griffiths@nzme.co.nz

100 Heads Road, Private Bag 3003
Whanganui 4540, New Zealand

Dear Ethan

Official Information Act Request – OIA 13280 Number of Violent Incidents in Te Awhina

On 10 December 2020, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

- A full breakdown of violent incidents that have taken place at Te Awhina Mental Health Care Facility within the last calendar year from the date of receipt of this request, including but not limited to assaults, sexual harm, sexual assault, head-butts, spitting, punching, and threats of death. I ask that this information be broken down by date and type of incident.

The information sought in this request is to be used as part of a report by the Whanganui Chronicle/NZ Herald into incidents of overcrowding at Te Awhina Mental Health Care Facility in Whanganui.

It is understood elements of the requested information might not be considered public information. If this is the case, I would ask each element is considered separately, described as best it can be and reasons for any information being declined being set against the information sought.

There may be aspects of the information sought which require names to be redacted to meet section 9(2)(a) of the Act. In situations such as this, I would ask you indicate the employer and position of the person whose name is redacted for the purposes of clarity.

Whanganui District Health Boards response:

A full breakdown of violent incidents that have taken place at Te Awhina Mental Health Care Facility within the last calendar year from the date of receipt of this request, including but not limited to assaults, sexual harm, sexual assault, head-butts, spitting, punching, and threats of death. I ask that this information be broken down by date and type of incident

Response attached. See Appendix 1.

Should you have any further queries about the above information, please contact our OIA co-ordinator Anne Phoenix at anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz

Yours sincerely



Russell Simpson
Chief Executive

Chief Executive | Phone 06 348 3140 | Fax 06 345 9390

Appendix 1. Incidents of Aggression Involving Tangata Whai Ora at Te Awhina by Date and Type

7 December 2019	Threatening language toward Staff
13 December 2019	Threatening language toward Staff
18 January 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
15 February 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
20 February 2020	Actual physical assault of Staff
25 February 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
26 February 2020	Actual physical assault of Staff
28 February 2020	Threatening language toward staff
4 March 2020	Threatening language toward staff
6 March 2020	Actual physical assault between two Tangata Whai Ora
9 March 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
11 March 2020	Threatening language toward other Tangata Whai Ora
16 March 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
16 March 2020	Actual physical assault of Staff
23 March 2020	Actual physical assault between two Tangata Whai Ora
28 March 2020	Actual physical assault of Staff
1 April 2020	Threatening language toward another Tangata Whai Ora
8 April 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
16 April 2020	Threatening language and actual assault of Staff
18 April 2020	Actual physical assault of Staff Member and another Tangata Whai Ora
5 May 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
20 May 2020	Actual physical assault of another Tangata Whai Ora
13 June 2020	Actual physical assault of Staff
22 June 2020	Threatening language toward Staff and other Tangata Whai Ora
12 July 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
22 July 2020	Staff member sustained injury during restraint of Tangata Whai Ora
30 July 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
7 August 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
10 August 2020	Threatening behaviour toward Staff
10 August 2020	Actual physical assault of Staff
15 August 2020	Threatening language and actual assault of Staff
19 August 2020	Threatening language and actions toward Staff
20 August 2020	Actual physical assault of Staff
22 August 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
26 August 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
27 August 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
29 August 2020	Attempted assault of Staff
30 August 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
3 September 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
10 September 2020	Near miss assault and threatening language toward Staff
19 September 2020	Actual physical assault of another Tangata Whai Ora, Actual Staff injury
21 September 2020	Threatening language toward Staff
24 September 2020	Near miss assault of Staff, threatening language toward Staff
25 September 2020	Threatening language toward Staff

3 October 2020	Threatening language toward another Tangata Whai Ora
8 October 2020	Threatening language toward another Tangata Whai Ora
18 October 2020	Actual physical assault of another Tangata Whai Ora
18 October 2020	Sexualised language toward another Tangata Whai Ora
19 October 2020	Threatening SMS to Haumoana Service (Maori Health Navigator Service)
27 October 2020	Tangata Whai Ora actual physical assault of his Mother
9 November 2020	Actual physical assault of another Tangata Whai Ora
Nil Further for period to 15 December 2020	