

19 September 2019

Thank you for your request dated 30 August 2019 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982, regarding the availability of chairs suitable for sleeping in, at Hutt Valley District Health Board's Hutt Hospital. You requested:

(1) "What is your policy in regards to providing reclining chairs or mattresses to a patient's family member? Can we please have a copy?"

(2) How many patients or family members have raised concerns in regards to the provision of reclining chairs or mattresses with you over the period 2017 and 2018?"

The information pertaining to your request is below.

Question 1:

"What is your policy in regards to providing reclining chairs or mattresses to a patient's family member? Can we please have a copy?"

We do not have a hospital-wide policy relating to providing reclining chairs or mattresses to a patient's family member. Different areas within the hospital have different resources and facilities available to them; having a family member stay overnight is situation-dependent and at the manager's discretion. We support the right of patients to determine which whānau / family members they would like to support them, while recognising the need for patients to rest.

Question 2:

"(2) How many patients or family members have raised concerns in regards to the provision of reclining chairs or mattresses with you over the period 2017 and 2018?"

One person has contacted us between January 2017 and December 2018, regarding availability of a reclining chair / mattress for family members.