



11 February 2021

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Dear Mr [Redacted]

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request on 28 January 2021 for information on:

If or how Covid 19 and the subsequent lockdowns have affected the planned rebuild of the Henry Rongomau Bennett Centre?

We have interpreted the request in two ways: firstly to summarise any effects on the design of the planned Henry Rongomau Bennett Centre, and secondly to summarise any effects on the progress of the re-development programme.

Regarding the design, to date the design work undertaken has been to 'Concept Design' phase i.e.: very high level. During the next design phase, detailed work will be undertaken to ensure that the building supports the required operational workflows. One of the methods that will be used during this next design phase will be scenario-based design, which will specifically include the potential "what-if" aspect of lockdown/pandemic occurring. Not only will the building design responses be determined, but the associated workflow design will also be considered.

Regarding progress, the project has undoubtedly been impacted by Covid priorities. Whilst the project team were quickly able to switch to virtual technologies in order to continue the stakeholder engagement and design processes, there were times that review sessions required to be rescheduled due to key Waikato DHB stakeholders' requirement to prioritise Covid work. However, these delays were not material in the overall timeline.

Waikato DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publically 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.

Yours sincerely

Marc ter Beek

Executive Director Strategy, Investment and Transformation (Acting)

