

3 November 2023

Erika Whittome

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Tēnā koe Erika

Official information request HNZ00029810

Thank you for your email on 11 September 2023, asking for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please see outlined below a response to each part of your request.

1. *What budget was allocated for Covid 19 health and safety activities at DHBs for the 2021/2022 financial year? For example, Covid advisors, Covid risk specialist roles, website info pages etc.*

This is not information held or collated centrally by Te Whatu Ora or hospitals. Any information in scope that may exist regarding allocations will generally reflect the evolving situation at the time and the necessary reprioritisation of roles and responsibilities. This aspect of your request for information is difficult to assess, and substantial manual collation would be required to locate and prepare all documents within scope of your request. As such, I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Act as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

I have considered whether fixing a charge for the supply of the information or extending the timeframe for response would enable Te Whatu Ora to respond. I do not consider that either option would remove the impact that supplying the information would have on our other operations.

2. *What designations did the DHBs receive under section 191 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSW Act) in order to act as a regulator for health and safety matters?*

We are not aware that DHBs received any designation to act as a regulator for health and safety purposes. We ask that you note that this would have the potential to conflict with their responsibilities as a PCBU (Persons Conducting a Business or Undertaking) under the HSW Act, for the delivery of health services (including hospitals).

We ask you note that any designations made by the Prime Minister under section 191, of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 are published in the Gazette which is available here www.gazette.govt.nz.

How to get in touch

I am sorry that we didn't confirm this with you sooner. This is something we are working hard to improve on, but we acknowledge the frustration this is likely to cause. If you have any questions, you can contact us at hnzOIA@health.govt.nz.

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Te Whatu Ora may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Michael Cleary
Acting OIA Manager
Government Services

TeWhatuOra.govt.nz

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Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government