

25 May 2020

Travis  
fyi-request-12716-b3fc9201@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2019/20-0488

Dear Travis

**Official Information Act request relating to an audio file used for the alert tone used in COVID-19 announcements**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 30 April 2020. You requested:

*"I would like to request the audio file for the alert tone that plays at the beginning and at the end of the COVID-19 announcements on TV and on the web."*

As you will know, the alert tone you have identified is used to alert the public to key health and safety information related to COVID-19. I do not believe it would be appropriate to distribute this audio file for use by members of the public, as to do so would reduce the efficacy of the tone, or could be used in a way that is detrimental to public health and safety. Therefore, I have decided to withhold the requested information under section 9(2)(c), to protect the health or safety of members of the public.

In making my decision, I have taken the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act into account.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely



John Ombler  
**All of Government Controller**