



Reference: 20200166

2 June 2020

Gerry Hetet
fyi-request-12796-826dfc41@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Gerry

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act, received on 6 May 2020. You requested:

...any communications, reports, documents and papers, that were provided to the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon Jacinda Ardern, immediately prior to or after NZ entering Covid-19 Alert Level 3, specifically those that the Prime Minister referred to on 4 May 2020 stating the New Zealand economy was operating at 75 percent according to the Treasury.

Several proactive releases of information are planned for advice provided to the Government on the economic impact of COVID-19. This information may include some of the material in scope of your request. The first information release was published on the Department of Cabinet and Prime Minister website on Friday 8 May:
covid19.govt.nz/resources/key-documents-and-legislation/proactive-release/

Several further releases are planned over the coming weeks. Once the information is proactively released, please let us know if it has fully or partially covered off your request.

If any of the specific information you requested is not covered by the proactive release, under section 15A of the Official Information Act I am extending the time limit for deciding on your request by an additional 40 working days. If the extension is required, the new due date for responding to your request is 30 July 2020.

As you will understand, the Treasury, along with a number of government agencies, is currently directing resources towards its response to COVID-19.

This will mean the consultations required to make a decision on your request are likely to take longer than usual. This is the reason for the length of the extension, should it be required for information not covered by the proactive release, advised in this letter.

Should you have any questions about this or any other aspect of your request please contact me at david.hammond@treasury.govt.nz.

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This extension will also apply to the time limit for transferring your request, should this become relevant.

Notwithstanding this extension, I undertake to make a decision on your request as soon as reasonably practicable.

Finally, I want to acknowledge this is a different approach compared with the usual approach to responding to an official information request that may be partly or fully covered by a proactive release. If after the proactive releases a lot of the documentation you requested is not covered, please let us know what is a priority for you and we will endeavour to get this priority information to you well within the new deadline.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review this decision.

Yours sincerely

David Hammond
Team Leader Ministerial Advisory