



Prime Minister

23 MAR 2021

Ryan Potts
fyi-request-14743-404dc830@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: PMO 2021-044

Dear Ryan Potts

Official Information Act request relating to undetected community transmission

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), received on 23 February 2021. You requested:

"Please disclose any advice and reports you have received concerning the possibility of undetected community transmission of Covid-19 in New Zealand since February 2020."

On 9 March 2021, you refined your request to confirm that you were seeking:

"I'm seeking any official reports or briefing material that include reference to the subject of undetected community transmission, particularly in relation to the "Valentine's Day" cluster."

Based on this refinement, we have identified information received from the Minister for Covid-19 Response, Hon Chris Hikins, and the Ministry of Health, which I believe is more closely connected to the functions of the Minister and Ministry respectively. Accordingly, I have decided under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act to transfer this request in part to the Minister for Covid-19 Response and the Director-General of Health, as they are best placed to make a decision on the release of this information.

The Minister and Ministry have 20 working days from receipt of this transfer to make decisions on your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'PP. H. H.' with a large flourish.

Raj Nahna
Chief of Staff