



11 May 2021

Mr M Bell
by email: fyi-request-15146-91b5af77@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2020/21-0525

Dear Mr Bell

Official Information Act request relating to information on the decision to extend the 28 April 2020 State of National Emergency

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request that was transferred to the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) for response on 13 April 2021. You requested:

1. *"A copy of all data, information, statistics and scientific proof (related to the severity of the COVID-19 disease, particularly its mortality rate or any other data about COVID-19) which made you decide to extend the State of National Emergency published here - www.beehive.govt.nz/release/state-national-emergency-extended-5*
2. *All facts, data, information, statistics and scientific proof related to COVID-19 that made you decide that "the emergency is, or is likely to be, of such extent, magnitude, or severity that the civil defence emergency management necessary or desirable in respect of it is, or is likely to be, beyond the resources of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Groups whose areas may be affected by the emergency." as stated in section 66(1)(b) of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002*
3. *A copy of all data, information, statistics and scientific proof (related to the severity of the COVID-19 disease, particularly its mortality rate or any other data about COVID-19) which was used to make the original declaration of a State of Emergency published here - www.beehive.govt.nz/speech/prime-minister%E2%80%99s-statement-state-national-emergency-and-epidemic-notice (if this question is aimed at the wrong person or Minister, please provide their contact details)."*

The following information is within scope of your request and is publicly available on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and Unite against COVID-19 websites:

Item	Date	Document Title	Website Address
1.	24/03/2020	Briefing 20/29: Declaring a National State of Emergency	dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2020-04/covid-19-sone.pdf
2.	30/03/2020	Briefing 20/32: Extension of the State of National Emergency for COVID-19	dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2020-04/covid-19-first-extension-sone.pdf

3.	6/04/2021	Briefing 20/35: Second Extension of the State of National Emergency for COVID-19	dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2020-04/covid-19-sone-second-extension.pdf
4.	13/04/2020	Briefing 20/39: Third Extension of the State of National Emergency for COVID-19	dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2020-04/covid-19-sone-third-extension.pdf
5.	20/04/2020	Briefing 20/43: Fourth Extension of the State of National Emergency for COVID-19	dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2020-04/covid-19-sone-fourth-extension.PDF
6.	27/04/2020	Briefing 20/44: Fifth Extension of the State of National Emergency for COVID-19	dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2020-04/covid-19-sone-fifth-extension-2.pdf
7.	4/05/2020	Briefing 20/50: Sixth Extension of the State of National Emergency for COVID-19	dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2020-05/covid-19-sone-sixth-extension.pdf
8.	8/05/2020	Documents proactively released on 8 May 2020	covid19.govt.nz/updates-and-resources/legislation-and-key-documents/proactive-release/alert-levels-and-restrictions/#documents-proactively-released-on-8-may
9.	12/05/2020	Briefing 20/59: COVID-19 National Transition Period	dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2020-06/covid-19-national-transition-period.pdf
10.	8/06/2020	Briefing 20/74: Termination of National Transition Period	dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2020-07/covid-19-termination-of-national-transition-period.pdf

Accordingly, I have refused your request for the documents listed in the above table under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information requested is publicly available.

Some information has been removed from documents listed in the above table and continues to be withheld under the Act, on the grounds identified in the documents. 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.

As this information is already publicly available, we do not intend to publish this response on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website.

Yours sincerely

Carolyn Schwalger
Chief Executive, National Emergency Management Agency