

27 April 2021

133 Molesworth Street
PO Box 5013
Wellington 6140
New Zealand
T+64 4 496 2000

John Jacobson

By email: fyi-request-15162-1322f185@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H202104400

Dear John Jacobson

Partial transfer of your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 13 April 2021 for:

- “(a) the dates and titles of all advice or memos generated within the Ministry of Health which are either solely about, or incorporate content relating to, the topic of how a person might provide proof or certification of either having been vaccinated against Covid-19, or otherwise having Covid-19 antibodies.*
- (b) copies of the advice or memos identified as within the scope of (a) above.*
- (c) copies of communications from the Ministry to each of the following about options for, or work to progress, people being able to provide proof of their Covid-19 vaccination or antibody status, sent between 1 August 2020 and 13 April 2021;*
 - (i) the Minister or Associate Ministers of Health, or officials in their offices;*
 - (ii) the Minister for Covid-19 Response, or officials in his office;*
 - (iii) officials in the Covid-19 Group in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet*
 - (iv) officials in the Department of Internal Affairs*
 - (v) officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade*
 - (vi) officials in the Ministry of Justice.*
- (d) any contract the Ministry holds with a software company which includes work to develop a smartphone app to record and display someone's proof or certification of their Covid-19 vaccination status, and a the statement of work required from that company in relation to that work.*
- (e) the project plan (or other documentation giving an overview of the work) of any work to develop a smartphone app to record and display someone's proof or certification of their Covid-19 vaccination status.*
- (f) the number of people working for, or contracted to, the Ministry of Health that are working on methods for people to provide proof or certification of their Covid-19 vaccination status, both in absolute numbers and Full-Time Equivalents.”*

I have been advised that information pertaining to the first three parts of your request is also held by the Ministry of Transport (Transport). For this reason, I have decided to partially transfer these parts of your request to Transport under section 14 of the Act. You can expect a response from Transport in due course.

Please note, the Ministry of Health is currently reviewing the previous response to your request on 7 May 2021 and will provide a revised response in due course. Please note, this will also include a response to the parts being partially transferred to Transport.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made on your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nick Allan', written over a horizontal line.

Nick Allan
Manager OIA Services
Office of the Director-General

Copy of OIA request

From: John Jacobson <fyi-request-15162-1322f185@requests.fyi.org.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 3:19:35 AM
To: OIA Requests
Subject: Official Information request - Certification of Covid status

Dear Ministry of Health,

This is an OIA request for information about work the Ministry may have been doing around the topic of certifying or proving someone's Covid-19 status.

Please provide the following information.

(a) the dates and titles of all advice or memos generated within the Ministry of Health which are either solely about, or incorporate content relating to, the topic of how a person might provide proof or certification of either having been vaccinated against Covid-19, or otherwise having Covid-19 antibodies.

(b) copies of the advice or memos identified as within the scope of (a) above.

(c) copies of communications from the Ministry to each of the following about options for, or work to progress, people being able to provide proof of their Covid-19 vaccination or antibody status, sent between 1 August 2020 and 13 April 2021;

- (i) the Minister or Associate Ministers of Health, or officials in their offices;
- (ii) the Minister for Covid-19 Response, or officials in his office;
- (iii) officials in the Covid-19 Group in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- (iv) officials in the Department of Internal Affairs
- (v) officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- (vi) officials in the Ministry of Justice.

(d) any contract the Ministry holds with a software company which includes work to develop a smartphone app to record and display someone's proof or certification of their Covid-19 vaccination status, and a the statement of work required from that company in relation to that work.

(e) the project plan (or other documentation giving an overview of the work) of any work to develop a smartphone app to record and display someone's proof or certification of their Covid-19 vaccination status.

(f) the number of people working for, or contracted to, the Ministry of Health that are working on methods for people to provide proof or certification of their Covid-19 vaccination status, both in absolute numbers and Full-Time Equivalents.

If you need to clarify this request, or feel the need to discuss its scope with me, I can be contacted via the email address you received this request from. If any of this information is already publicly available, and published online please provide a link to the specific information.

For the purposes of s. 12 of the OIA, I am a New Zealand citizen living in New Zealand.

Yours faithfully,

John Jacobson

This is an Official Information request made via the FYI website.

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:
fyi-request-1xxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xxx.org.nz

Is xxxxx@xxx.xxxx.xx the wrong address for Official Information requests to Ministry of Health?
If so, please contact us using this form:
<https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=15517&d=ol314Jyy5EBKXsbvl2XrrfGEc-INt9y8KkYI9BSAqQ&u=https%3a%2f%2ffyi%2eorg%2enz%2fchange%5frequest%2fnew%3fbody%3dministry%5fof%5fhealth>

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