

Reference: 20210519

10 February 2022

T Baker
fyi-request-16178-9ff2b0bb@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear T Baker

Thank you for your Official Information Act request (OIA), received on 3 November 2021. You requested the following:

- information related to the Modelling Governance Group established by the Ministry of Health:*
- Members of Modelling Governance Group.*
- Modelling Governance Group terms of reference.*
- Fee structure and cost incurred to date by Ministry by all activities associated with the Modelling Governance Group.*
- Conflicts of interest declared by members of Modelling Governance Group.*
- All modelling reports provided to Modelling Governance Group.*
- All minutes of meetings of Modelling Governance Group.*
- All comments made to reports issued to Modelling Governance Group.*
- All emails received or issued by the Ministry, by the Government, and by members of the Modelling Governance Group, associated with the Modelling Governance Group since group was appointed.*

The time to respond was extended by 35 working days. Your request was transferred to The Treasury as the agency responsible for convening the COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group.

The Terms of Reference for the group lists the officials who are members of the group. There is no fee structure or cost incurred directly by the group (as it does not include external participants), and no conflicts of interest have been declared by the members. Agendas and associated reports considered by the group will be attached, as well as relevant correspondence held by The Treasury. Formal minutes of the group's meetings are not kept, although the correspondence does include some discussion of the content of meetings.

Information to be released

A provisional list of documents to be released is mainly made up of emails that the Treasury holds and are within the scope of your request. Once we have completed final checking, we will send you the material to be released no later than 21 February 2022, in accordance with section 15(1)(b) of the OIA.

Item	Date	Document Description
1.	February 2021	COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group- Terms of Reference
2.	14 July 2021	Email: key points and actions from the Modelling Group
3.	14 May 2021	Email: Agenda and papers for Modelling Governance Group
4.	29 June 2021	Email: Publication of TPM vaccination modelling
5.	5 May 2021	Email: Draft proposed for COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group
6.	14 April 2021	Email: Draft Agenda for 14 April COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group
7.	13 April 2021	Email: Draft Agenda for 12 April COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group
8.	13 April 2021	Email: Draft Agenda for 12 April COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group
9.	13 April 2021	Email: Draft Agenda for 12 April COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group
10.	23 February 2021	Email: COVID-19 Modelling Group
11.	17 February 2021	Email: Proposed agenda for modelling steering group
12.	15 February 2021	Email: Vaccination and testing of the border workforce
13.	15 December 2020	Email: overview of what the modelling governance role looks like
14.	1 September 2021	Email: Agenda and papers for Friday's COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group
15.	8 November 2021	Email: Upcoming TPM paper release
16.	1 September 2021	Email: Agenda and papers for Friday's COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group
17.	28 October 2021	Email: Agenda and papers for Friday's COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group
18.	16 September 2021	Email: COVID strategy modelling catch up
19.	31 August 2021	Email: COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group
20.	11 August 2021	Email: Confidence under embargo COVID-19 vaccines strategies for Aotearoa
21.	14 July 2021	Email: Confirmed agenda and papers
22.	9 July 2021	Email: Confirmed agenda and papers
23.	11 May 2021	Email: Agenda and papers for Friday's COVID-19 Modelling Governance Group

Information publicly available

The following information is also covered by your request and is publicly available on the websites listed below:

Item	Date	Document Description	Website Address
1.	29 September 2021	Vaccination and testing of the border workforce for COVID-19 and risk of community outbreaks: a modelling study	https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/full/10.1098/rsos.210686
2.	March 2021	Effect of vaccination, border testing, and quarantine	https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S246

		requirements on the risk of COVID-19 in NZ: A modelling study	<u>8042721000877</u>
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Accordingly, I have made the decision to refuse your request for the documents listed in the above table under section 18(d) of the OIA: *the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.*

The included papers *Frequency of Serious Outbreaks in COVID-19 in a Partially Immune Population* and *Visualising the effect of restrictions on travellers* were shared as a “work in progress” for feedback rather than as final advice and are incorporated into item 2 above.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

John Beaglehole
Manager, Economic Policy