

Office of the Prime Minister

Prime Minister

Minister for National Security and Intelligence

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services

Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage



Mark Brown

fyi-request-16686-58c74dfb@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: PMO 2021-248

Dear Mark Brown

Official Information Act request relating to documents transcripts and discussions regarding Dr Siouxsie Wiles

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 9 September 2021. You requested:

"please provide documentation, transcripts of discussions, and meeting notes discussing Siouxsie Wiles breach."

Please find attached a text exchange between the Prime Minister and Dr Wiles, dated 8 September 2021, and an email received from a member of the public. Both include redactions under section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals.

The Prime Minister also received draft media advice from her staff in relation to this matter. I am refusing these draft media lines under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act, which relates to the withholding of free and frank advice. What I can advise is the public comments that the Prime Minister made on 12 September 2021, at the 1PM Press Conference that were informed by this draft media advice. You can find a clip of the Prime Minister being asked about this matter at the following link:

https://youtu.be/f3Y_o5zH3c0?t=2475

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

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Raj Nahna'.

Raj Nahna
Chief of Staff



Siouxsie >

Kia ora Jacinda, hope you are as well as can be expected despite everything. I just thought I'd give you a heads up that Cam Slater thinks he has a scoop about me breaking level 4 rules and I've no idea if this is the sort of thing you may end up being asked to comment on! I went to Judges Bay with one of my bubble-mates a few days ago and we sat on the beach and chatted without masks on. That bay is super shallow and protected so she went for a 2 min paddle. There were only about 2 other groups on the beach so it's really depressing that one of them filmed me and is trying to use that film to discredit me. I guess that's my life now! All the best, Siouxsie



iMessage



10:47



Siouxsie >



Released under the Official Information Act 1982



iMessage



From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 9 September 2021 7:34 am
To: ^Parliament: Ellen Read
Subject: FW: Comment regarding breach of Level Four regulations by Siouxsie Wiles

Hi – this has come in fyi.
Cheers
D

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 8 September 2021 6:00 PM
To: J Ardern (MIN) <j.ardern@ministers.govt.nz>
Subject: Comment regarding breach of Level Four regulations by Siouxsie Wiles

Dear Prime Minister,

Please view the attached video of Siouxsie Wiles taken in Auckland on Friday 3 September at Judges Bay in Parnell.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6FwWs14QBQU>

Contrary to Ms Wiles advices to the public (Sept 7 RNZ) regarding the wearing of masks while outdoors, even under level twom, and given your own advice from the podium about wearing masks outside in level four, Ms Wiles is sitting within two meters of some one else without a mask, and she is more than 5km from her hom in Freemans Bay.

Further, the person with Ms Wiles was also videoed swimming in contravention of level four lock down rules and is also believed to be a journalist.

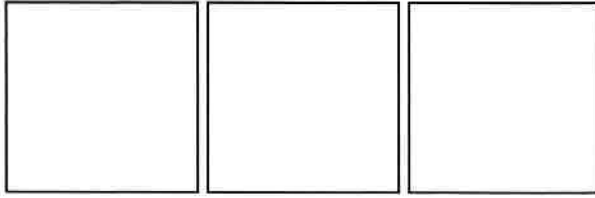
Ms Wiles is one of your key advisors during this pandemic, indeed you held up her chart at the beginning of the pandemic.

What comment do you have about this clear breach of level four regulations by one of your key science advisors?

Kind regards

s9(2)(a)





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