

18 October 2021

Scott

By email: fyi-request-16776-6d34c706@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H202112506

Tēnā koe Scott

Response to 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 17 September 2021 for information relating to the Waikato District Health Board (DHB) ransomware attack. You specifically requested:

- 1) *“The Ministry of Health communications plan”*

A copy of this document is enclosed and has been released to you in full.

- 2) *“The Ministry of Health response plan or action plan”*

I have been advised that you have also directed this request to Waikato DHB. As Waikato DHB leads the action plan, they will respond to this part of your request.

- 3) *“All briefings, reports or memoranda provided to Minister Andrew Little”*

The release of this information is likely to compromise the health and safety of patients and service user information, as well as disclose details that would increase Waikato DHB's security risk. For this reason, information relating to this part of your request is withheld in full under the following sections of the Act:

- section 6(c) as its release would likely prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial; and
- section 9(2)(ba)(i), to protect information that is subject to an obligation of confidence and making it available would likely prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source; and
- section 9(2)(c), to avoid prejudice to measures to protect the health or safety of the public; and
- section 9(2)(e), to avoid prejudice to measures that prevent or mitigate material loss to members of the public.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Darren Douglass', with a horizontal line drawn through it.

Darren Douglass
**Acting Deputy Director-General
Data and Digital**