



Kiwi

fyi-request-17021-da66ebd8@requests.fyi.org.nz

15 November 2021

Dear Kiwi

Ref: DOIA 2122-0912

I refer to your request of 4 October 2021 for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA):

Who negotiated on New Zealand behalf the contract with Pfizer for the Covid-19 vaccine? What lobby companies/firms NGO's or such lobby the New Zealand government on Pfizer's behalf?

Negotiations for the Pfizer vaccine contract were undertaken by senior policy staff who were reassigned within MBIE and supported by specialist legal advisors from Bell Gully, who also provide legal advice to Pharmac and are therefore experienced in negotiating agreements with pharmaceutical companies. MBIE received expert advice on logistics from the Ministry of Health, who coordinated with staff organising the vaccine rollout, and senior staff from Pharmac experienced in negotiating with pharmaceutical companies for the supply of vaccines. A subgroup of the Vaccine Strategy Task Force's Science and Technical Advisory Group further provided technical advice on the vaccines available.

MBIE was not lobbied by any third parties on behalf of Pfizer during its work on the vaccine strategy, and all discussions between the COVID-19 Vaccine Taskforce and Pfizer about the purchase of its COVID-19 vaccine were undertaken directly with Pfizer employees. MBIE did meet with the pharmaceutical industry body Medicines New Zealand, of which Pfizer is a member, in order to inform that sector of the aims and content of the COVID-19 Vaccine Strategy.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Simon Rae'.

Simon Rae
Manager, International Science Partnerships
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment