

20 June 2022

Scott fyi-request-19510-7624dd83@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: OIA-2021/22-1383

Dear Scott

Official Information Act request for COVID-19 National Response Plans

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 30 May 2022. You requested:

"ONE: COVID-19 National Response Plan Quarter 4 Supplement 1 TWO: COVID-19 National Response Plan Quarter 4 Supplement 2 THREE: COVID-19 National Management Plan Quarter 1 FOUR: All subsequent COVID-19 National Management Plans"

In response to questions one and three of your request the documents COVID-19 National Response Plan Quarter 4 Supplement 1 2021 and COVID-19 National Management Approach Quarter 1 2022 will be proactively released in the coming weeks on the Unite Against COVID-19 website:

https://covid19.govt.nz/about-our-covid-19-response/proactive-releases/alert-levels-and-restrictions/

Accordingly, I am refusing your request for these documents under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information requested will soon be publicly available.

In response to question two, while the *COVID-19 National Response Plan Quarter 4 Supplement 2 2021* was planned to be written, it did not proceed. Accordingly we are refusing your request for this document under section 18(e) of Act, that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

In response to question four of your request, the document *COVID-19 National Management Approach Quarter 2 2022* is not yet finalised. Therefore I have decided to withhold it in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials. I can advise that this plan, as well as any subsequent COVID-19 National Response Plans prepared by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet will be proactively released on the Unite Against COVID-19 website.

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

We do not intend to publish this response on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website.

Yours sincerely

0

Ruth Fairhall **Deputy Chief Executive, COVID-19 Response**