

20 October 2022

J Bruning fyi-request-20642-7f34a0ee@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: OIA-2022/23-0173

Dear J Bruning

## Official Information Act request for documents related to the international travel vaccination certificate

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 22 September 2022. You requested:

"Please supply all cabinet papers, memoranda, and reports received by officials and Ministers regarding an 'International Travel Vaccination Certificate'.

See: September 14, 2022.

https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcovid19.govt.nz%2Fcovid-19-vaccines%2Fvaccine-passes-and-certificates%2Fproof-of-your-vaccinationstatus%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cinformation%40dpmc.govt.nz%7C7955e84efcdc4cc39a8f08da9c2625a7%7Ceea6053309ef4b7a94060f38551cc613%7C0%7C0%7C637993985039158967%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCl6Mn0%3D%7C1000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Pt4NaudmZarbuwgAylPFNs0RtbRjqVm6s0WNFqfQt5k%3D&reserved=0

This includes all information internally produced by agencies and government officials, as well information and advice received from the WHO, United Nations agencies, from GAVI, CEPI and COVAX; from the World Economic Forum as well as from management consultancy firms.

Please advise all known countries who have integrated International Travel Vaccination Certificate into their policies and procedures currently, and countries for which this plan is underway."

As you may be aware, work regarding the international travel vaccination certificate was led by the Ministry of Health. As your request is more closely connected to the Ministry of Health, it would have been appropriate to partially transfer your request, however I understand you have made a related request directly to the Ministry and accordingly refer you to the Ministry's response.

Your request has been interpreted as being for all advice specifically regarding an international travel vaccination certificate. The attached assessment *COVID-19 Vaccines: Managing the Borders* (23 March 2021) has been identified as in scope of your request. I am responding on DPMC's behalf as the assessment was written by analysts within the National Security Group. The distribution list attached to this assessment is withheld under section 6(a) of the Act, to avoid prejudicing the security or defence of New Zealand. The remainder of this assessment is released to you in full.

With regard to the part of your request for "all known countries who have integrated International Travel Vaccination Certificate into their policies and procedures currently, and countries for which this plan is underway", I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by DPMC, and I am advised it is not held by another department. I do however note that the attached assessment includes some examples of known international approaches as at March 2021.

As noted in your request, more general information is publicly available on the Unite Against COVID-19 website. This can be accessed at the following link: <a href="https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/vaccine-passes-and-certificates/proof-of-your-vaccination-status/">https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/vaccine-passes-and-certificates/proof-of-your-vaccination-status/</a>

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

This response may be published on DPMC's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely

Tony Lynch **Deputy Chief Executive National Security Group** 

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