

Reference: 20230111

3 April 2023

S Hill
fyi-request-22060-d5724a4c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear S

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 10 March 2023. You requested:

In September 2021 Grant Robertson Minister of Finance and Treasury on behalf of the Crown, gave indemnities to the following parties in relation to the supply of a COVID-19 vaccine:

- Pfizer New Zealand Limited
- Pfizer Inc
- BioNTech
- Specific associated persons
- Spain
- Denmark,

[1] Please confirm all parties that indemnities were given to in relation to the Vaccine, as well as dates.

[2] Please provide reasons for why indemnities were granted to stated parties.

[3] Please provide all notes and documents relating to indemnities [4] Please provide all notes and documents by advising parties in relation to this matter [5] Please provide the names of all parties who voted for this action, or were in a position of authority to decide this matter

Information publicly available

The following information is covered by your request and is publicly available on the Parliament, Ministry of Health, and Treasury websites:

Item	Date	Document Description	Website Address
1.	4 September 2021	Briefing HR20211964: Securing additional doses of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine in September	www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/20211964_briefing.pdf

2.	4 September 2021	Treasury Report T2021/2212: Purchasing Pfizer vaccines for September 2021: indemnity requests	www.treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2022-04/oa-20210528.pdf
3.	17 September 2021	Appendix 2: Statement of Indemnity for presenting in the House	Microsoft Word - 2. Indemnities - Appendix 2 - Statement of Indemnity given under the PFAdocx (www.parliament.nz)

Accordingly, I have refused your request for the documents listed in the above table under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act:

- the information requested is or will soon be publicly available

Information to be withheld

There is an additional document covered by your request that I have decided to withhold in full under the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- under section 9(2)(ba)(i) and section 9(2)(ba)(ii) – to protect information that is subject to an obligation of confidence,
- under section 9(2)(c) – to avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public,

Item	Date	Document Description	Decision
4.	18 December 2020	T2021/2212 Annex 1: Template bilateral agreement between New Zealand and each EU state	Withhold in full

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

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

Jess Hewat
Manager, Health, and ACC