

30 May 2023

Al fyi-request-22356-xxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.org.nz

Ref: OIA-2022/23-0869

Dear Al

Official Information Act request follow up to request for correspondence/documents related to the use of domestic vaccine passes

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 2 May 2023. You requested:

Thank you for responding on the portion of my request to relating to what was the document dated the 5th of July.

Funnily enough, I did read that document but because there was no mention of a domestic version of the vaccine pass (only in relation to international travel) I wondered if it was the correct reference. Perhaps the 2nd part of my request will shed more light on that?

I'm certainly interested in how that document which does not explicitly discuss it - led to domestic vaccine pass discussions.

On 22 May 2023 you were advised that the document titled 'Consultation (Initial advice on domestic use of Vaccine certificates)' was identified as being within scope of your request and you clarified that both the document and embedded emails were to be considered for release.

Please find enclosed the relevant information, subject to some information withheld under the following section of the Act:

- section 9(2)(h), to maintain legal professional privilege
- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals

I can further advise that this information was the basis for the previously released 'Joint Briefing: Initial Advice on the Domestic Use of COVID-19 Vaccination Certificates', I have however, withheld the DRAFT copy of this briefing in full under the following section of the Act:

• section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion

However, here is a link to the final briefing: <u>https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/Proactive-Releases/Alert-levels-and-restrictions/10-Dec-2021/Vaccine-Certificates-and-CPF/Initial-advice-on-the-domestic-use-of-COVID-19-Vaccination-certificates.pdf</u>

Please note that this response covers information held by DPMC. The Ministry of Health would also hold information within scope of your request, however, I understand that you

have made a similar request to the Ministry of Health and as such I refer you to their response.

Finally, you will note on page 5 of the document being released to you that the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (MPP) is recorded as not having provided a response to DPMC. MPP have asked me to let you know that they did not provide a response because the request for comment wasn't received due an error in the recipient's email address.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act. No public interest has been identified that would be sufficient to override the reasons for withholding that information.

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 the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet'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

lan hom

Clare Ward Executive Director Strategy, Governance, and Engagement