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3 July 2023

Jan Rivers

By email: fyi-request-23023-17078a27@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H2023026636

Tēnā koe Jan

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 6 June 2023 for information regarding puberty blockers. You requested:

“Please can you supply all information about puberty blocking medication for children that was provided to NZME or the NZ Herald or people employed or contracted by those organisations and the Ministry between Monday 29 and Wednesday 31 May 2023 including any communications within the Ministry about how to respond to the questions asked.

I would like to know the questions asked and the responses provided by the Ministry.

I am interested in the emails, personal meetings or telephone conversations and records made into tracking systems that relate to this topic.”

Manatū Hauora did not provide any information to NZME or NZ Herald on or between Monday 29 and Wednesday 31 May 2023. As such, I am unable to provide you with any information in scope of your request under section 18(e) of the Act.

You may be interested to know that on 26 May 2023 Manatū Hauora sent information to the NZ Herald regarding puberty blockers in response to a request for comment on clinical advice or guidance on puberty blockers. This information is being released to you pursuant to section 13 of the Act. I have withheld a small amount of information under section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of individuals. In doing so, I have considered the countervailing public interest in its release and consider that it does not outweigh the need to withhold at this time.

I trust this information fulfils your request. If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: oiagr@health.govt.nz.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'EBT' with a stylized flourish.

Elisabeth Brunt
Group Manager, Government Services
Government and Executive Services | Te Pou Whakatere Kāwanatanga

Appendix 1: List of documents for release

#	Date	Document details	Decision on release
1	26 May 2023	Email Correspondence: Re: Advice on puberty blockers	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.