

19 May 2026

Mark Bell

[fyi-request-25291-f51939f4@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-25291-f51939f4@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Mark

### Further response to your request for official information, ref: HNZ00043207

On 5 April 2024, you submitted a request to Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora (Health NZ) seeking the following information:

*Please refine the request to email communication only, focused on Margie Apa's email box to the Health NZ executive team between the dates of Nov 27 2023 and February 29 2024. If this is still refusible under 1 B(f) of the act please provide a very specific explanation in what way that is the case, and also provide alternative suggestions that could make this information available.*

*As another suggested alternative please provide any meeting minutes of the Health NZ ET discussing this subject from November 23 through to March 24 inclusive.*

For completeness, the requests outlined above are in the context of a previous request you made (ref: HNZ00035319) for the following:

*"Please provide all internal communications between the members of the executive team for Health NZ including meeting minutes, instant messages etc that discuss the response / damage control in relation to the ongoing analysis of the leaked vaccination data indicating very significant safety signals for death."*

On 6 May 2024, Health NZ contacted you about refining the scope of your request, as we had identified that a significant amount of information was potentially in scope, such that your request may be refused under section 18(f) of the OIA. Following further consultation, on 21 May 2024, you agreed to refine the scope of your request to:

*"... email communication only, focused on Margie Apa's email box to the Health NZ executive team between the dates of November 27 2023 and December 11 2023."*

On 11 July 2024, Health NZ communicated a decision on your request. I understand you were unhappy with our decision to withhold some information and that you subsequently made a complaint to the Ombudsman.

Health NZ issued a reconsidered response on 12 November 2025. As part of the continued Ombudsman investigation relating to your request, Health NZ has reconsidered the release of the information previously withheld and is now able to release further information.

### Response

Please refer to **Appendix 1** which provides our decision on the release of documents within scope of your request. The documents able to be released are attached as **Appendix 2**.

Some information has been withheld under the following sections of the OIA:

- section 6(c), as it would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial;
- section 6(d), as its release would likely endanger the safety of any person;
- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals;
- section 9(2)(g)(i), to protect the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions; and
- section 9(2)(h), to maintain professional legal privilege.

Where information is withheld under section 9 of the OIA, we do not consider that the countervailing public interest outweighs the need to withhold at this time.

### **How to get in touch**

If you have any questions, you can contact us at [h.nzOIA@tewhatuora.govt.nz](mailto:h.nzOIA@tewhatuora.govt.nz).

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602.

We have also advised the Ombudsman's office of our further response to you.

Ngā mihi



**Sara Freitag**

**Manager, Government Services**

## Appendix One

#	Date	Title	Decision on release
1	30 November 2023	Re: DATA and DIGITAL Update	Some information out of scope.
2	30 November 2023	Re: DATA and DIGITAL Update	Some information is withheld under the following sections of the OIA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• section 9(2)(a); and</li> <li>• section 9(2)(g)(i).</li> </ul> Some information out of scope.
3	1 December 2023	RE: DISCLOSURE incident - approach for a proactive release	Some information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA.
4	2 December 2023	CONFIDENTIAL_DATA BREACH UPDATE	Some information withheld under the following sections of the OIA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• section 6(c);</li> <li>• section 6(d);</li> <li>• section 9(2)(g)(i); and</li> <li>• section 9 (2)(h).</li> </ul>
5	3 December 2023	draft note for Coalition Government briefing	Some information withheld under the following sections of the OIA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• section 6(c);</li> <li>• section 6(d); and</li> <li>• section 9(2)(g)(i).</li> </ul>
6	3 December 2023	[subject line out of scope]	Some information out of scope.
7	4 December 2023	Re: On camera interview for this afternoon	Some information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA.
8	5 December 2023	HAVE FORWARDED TO [s9(2)(a)] Re_Data Leak, I was provided with the data and would like to report	Some information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA.
9	8 December 2023	RE: FOR APPROVAL – MEDIA RELEASE – DATA BREACH UPDATE	Some information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA.