

9 February 2024

Gaye Gardner fyi-request-25527-1ffc8d24@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Gaye

Your request for official information, reference: HNZ00036593

Thank you for your online request on 25 January 2024, asking for the following which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please see outlined below a response to your request.

My OIA request is for covid-19 vax status for public figures encouraging and recommending others to be protected.
Siouxsie Wiles
Ashley Bloomfield
Michael Baker

Information regarding COVID-19 vaccinations are recorded in the COVID Immunisation Register (CIR). Access to the CIR is limited to those with logon access rights. These people may include those involved in administering the vaccine, people who conduct contact tracing, and health professionals such as your family doctor, nurse or midwife.

A person's vaccination status is personal information and so falls under the protections laid out in the Privacy Act 2020. Therefore, I am refusing your request under section 49 (1)(a)(iii)(B) of the Privacy Act, and section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982, to protect their privacy. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals is not outweighed by the public interest in the release of this information.

As the individuals you have mentioned were public figures during the COVID-19 pandemic, you may find they have already shared this information publicly on a variety of social media platforms.

We have identified the following publicly available link which provides information regarding Ashley Bloomfield's vaccination status, which may be of interest to you. www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/449711/dr-ashley-bloomfield-receives-first-dose-of-covid-19-vaccine

How to get in touch

If you have any questions, you can contact us at hnzOIA@health.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 or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Te Whatu Ora may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Danielle Coe

Manager – Government Services (OIAs) Office of the Chief Executive

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