

24 January 2025

Official Information Request No.8140015143
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

Erika Whittome

By email - fyi-request-29558-e4a469fa@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Erika

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA)

Terminated staff due to vaccination status

Thank you for your information request dated 15 December 2024, for information about Auckland Council's approach to vaccination status and COVID sick days.

The specific details of your request and our response is below.

I would like to know the number of Auckland Council staff who were 1. terminated from their employment or place on any form of " extended leave" due to not being vaccinated for Covid-19 in 2021 and 2022.

From Tuesday 5 April 2022, vaccine passes were no longer required at Auckland Council's sites and facilities. In accordance with our obligations under the Privacy Act 2020, which set out how agencies collect, use, disclose, store and give access to personal information, Auckland Council made the decision to purge all vaccine related information from employee files because the information was no longer required for the purposes for which it was collected and used. This request is therefore under s 17(e) of the Local Government (Official Information and Meetings) Act 1987 refused as the information does not exist.

2. granted Special Covid-19 Leave between 22nd November 2021 and 2nd July 2022. (le they were sick from Covid-19 and off work on paid sick leave under "special covid19 leave")

- The total headcount of staff at this time of granting special covid-19 leave

There was no special Covid-19 Leave at Auckland Council, leave due to Covid illness was granted as Sick Leave. Therefore, this number is zero. In some circumstances, discretionary leave may have been granted to employees by their People Leader for reasons relating to Covid-19, however information relating to the reasons for which discretionary leave is granted, is not collected and is not able to be provided. Therefore, this part of your request is being refused under s 17(e) of LGOIMA – "Information does not exist or cannot be found "

I also request the information on the date that Auckland Council implemented a covid-19 vaccination policy for its employees, and the date this policy was removed (if removed).

The Council's Vaccination Policy came into effect on 1 December 2021 and was decommissioned as of 5 April 2022.

The decision by Auckland Council to release the information contained in this response was made by **Mirla Edmundson, Chief People, Safety and Wellbeing Officer**.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you have any questions please contact me at fernanda.maciel@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz, quoting LGOIMA No. 8140015143.

Ngā mihi



Fernanda Maciel
Privacy & Official Information Business Partner
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