

17 April 2026

Erika Whittome
fyi-request-32289-85719579@requests.fyi.org.nz

Our ref: OIA 131086

Tēnā koe Erika

Official Information Act request: Further to OIA 126311

Thank you for your email of 17 March 2026 to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry), requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), regarding advice the Ministry relied on when considering whether the COVID-19 (Vaccinations) Legislation Bill was consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. Specifically, you requested:

Information has been redacted citing legal Privilege.

Yes I wish to receive the requested information and ask for the following:

As well as ethical obligations, the attorney client privilege does not cover the cooperation and planning and enabling of the continued violation of laws. Can I please have confirmation that your withheld information does not discuss any violations of laws, such as the New Zealand Bill of Rights and the Human Rights Act 1990 or any other constitutional legislation

A response to your request is being prepared. However, the consultations necessary to make a decision on your request are such that a proper response cannot reasonably be made within the original timeframe. Therefore, I am extending the time limit for reply under section 15A(1)(b) of the Act and will respond to you no later than 5 May 2026.

You have the right, under section 28 of the Act, to make a complaint to the Ombudsman about the decision to extend the time for responding to your request. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by phone on: 0800 802 602, by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz, or via the webform: [Make a complaint \(for members of the public\) | Ombudsman New Zealand](#).

Nāku noa, nā



Louise Ainsley
Manager, Ministerial Services