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30 March 2026

Erika Whittome

By email: fyi-request-33708-68121712@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H2026079442

Tēnā koe Erika

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) which was transferred from Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora to the Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on 1 March 2026 for information regarding Dundas Street Law. You requested:

“The following documents listed below are from staff at DUNDAS STREET LAW and are the properties from the Microsoft word documents. These documents were used as template letters for unvaccinated DHB workers eg to stop them working from 15 November 2021, follow another exemption process, terminate employment and to rebut a “Voices for Freedom”:

Medical Exemption .docx

*Authors Jack Rainbow
last saved by Jack Rainbow
Content created 28/10/2021 11:49am
Last printed 21/10/2021 1:56pm*

Stand down letter template (1).docx

*Authors Jack Rainbow
Last saved by Simon Hughes
Content created 10/11/2021 11:53am
Date last saved 10/11/2021 11:53am
Last printed 21/10/2021 1:56pm*

Stand down letter template.docx

*Authors Jack Rainbow
Last saved by Jack Rainbow
Content created 21/10/2021 10:22am
Date last saved 28/10/2021 10:48am*

Last printed 21/10/2021 1:56pm
Total editing time 04:05:00

Termination Letter.docx

Authors Jack Rainbow
Last saved by Jack Rainbow
Content created 21/10/2021 10:22am
Date last saved 28/10/2021 10:48am
Last printed 22/10/2021 1:43pm
Total editing time 07:05:00

There is also an "Implementation process letter" containing steps for the DHBs to follow for unvaccinated workers and their employment termination.

Template DHB Response to Voices for Freedom letters.docx

Authors Megan Vant
Last saved by DundasSt
Content created 20/10/2021 09:02am
Date last saved 20/10/2021 4:20am
Last printed 20/10/2021 12:22pm
Total editing time 03:11:00
Template DS Blank (with quick keys) 0616.dotx

Implementation Process Letter.docx

Authors Chloe Luscombe
Last saved by Rory Barton
Content created 28/10/2021 12:10pm

1. Would you please share the minutes of the decision to engage Dundas Street Law to write all these letters/documents?
2. Would you please share the brief and work order request for these letters to be drafted?
3. Would you please share the cost to the DHB for Dundas Street Law to write all these template letters?

Would you please include the following document created by Dundas St Law in circulation at DHBs to be in scope of this information request? These are the MSWord document's properties:

Covid Mandate FAQs - Final.docx
Authors Jack Rainbow
Last saved by Jack Rainbow
Content created 19/10/2021 5:23pm
Date last saved 21/10/2021 10:20am
Last printed 19/10/2021 11:44am"

The requested information is withheld in full under section 9(2)(h) of the Act, to maintain legal professional privilege. I have considered the countervailing public interest in release in making this decision and consider that it does not outweigh the need to withhold at this time.

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.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Phil Knipe', written over a faint rectangular grid background.

Phil Knipe
Chief Legal Advisor
Corporate Services | Te Pou Tiaki