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9 April 2026

John Armstrong

By email: [fyi-request-34029-39c203ac@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-34029-39c203ac@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
Ref: H2026079945

Tēnā koe John

### **Response to your request for official information**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on 10 March for information regarding Briefings to Incoming Ministers (BIMs) prepared by the Ministry relating to Covid-19 vaccinations, mandates and management of the Covid-19 response. You requested:

*“Briefings to Incoming Ministers (BIM) prepared by the Ministry of Health following general elections or ministerial changes that discuss:*

- *COVID-19 vaccination policies*
- *vaccine mandates*
- *vaccination of individuals aged 12–17*
- *management of the COVID-19 response.*

*Please include both full BIM documents and any COVID-19 specific annexes.”*

The Ministry publishes BIMs on its website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-us/corporate-publications/briefings-to-the-incoming-minister](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-us/corporate-publications/briefings-to-the-incoming-minister) In addition to the BIMs published on the above website, a further BIM was prepared in June 2022 for the incoming Minister for the COVID-19 Response, the Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall. This document is to be published on the above Ministry website by 30 April 2026. As the requested document will soon be made publicly available, section 18(d) applies to your request. Please note that some information may be withheld under section 9 of the Act.

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](mailto: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](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests)

Nāku noa, nā



Barbara Burt  
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