

# Hon Simeon Brown

Minister of Health  
Minister for Energy  
Minister for State Owned Enterprises



Elliot Pilmore

By email: fyi-request-34602-6b8ff71d@requests.fyi.org.nz  
Ref: SBOIA26-1107

Dear Elliot

## Response to your request for information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 4 May 2026 to the Minister of Health, Hon Simeon Brown. You requested:

*"I am writing to request reasons for why an email has not been responded to. I sent an email to you on the 21st of November 2025 with the title "Blanket ban on the prescription of gonadotropin-releasing hormone analogues (puberty blockers)". In this email, I requested information as to how you justified the banning of these drugs, as well as asking for the opportunity to provide input from the point of view as a professional who works with LGBTQIA+ students in secondary schools. In my email, I also provided peer reviewed articles, along with a summary of these. I requested your justification for the desire to ban drugs that are, based on the peer reviewed literature available at the time, does not support a ban."*

I apologise for missing your earlier correspondence dated 21 November 2025 and for the delay in responding.

Your request does not constitute a request for information under the Act. While the Act allows people to request official information from Ministers and government agencies, it is not intended to facilitate ongoing debate or argument. The Act does not require Ministers to create new information, provide justifications, answer hypothetical questions, or substantiate or prove opinions. It also does not extend to requests that present statements for response as though they were requests for official information.

However, I can advise that, in response to the significant public interest in this matter, the Ministry of Health has made a proactive release of key documents informing the decision on prescribing GnRH analogues for young people experiencing gender incongruence and dysphoria. This includes all substantive advice to the Minister. The information is available at: [www.health.govt.nz/information-releases/cabinet-material-and-associated-documents-prescribing-gonadotropin-releasing-hormone-gnrh-analogues](http://www.health.govt.nz/information-releases/cabinet-material-and-associated-documents-prescribing-gonadotropin-releasing-hormone-gnrh-analogues).

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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Reef Stewart'.

Reef Stewart  
**Senior Ministerial Advisor**