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4 June 2026

Erika Whittome

By email: fyi-request-34621-d5f2a6aa@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H2026082361

Tēnā koe Erika

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 6 May 2026 for information regarding mandatory vaccinations announcements. You requested:

“On 11 Oct 2021, there was an announcement of Mandatory vaccination for two workforces : health and educations workers which is here:

<https://web.archive.org/web/20211021214524/https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/vaccinations-and-work/mandatory-vaccinations-for-workers/health-and-disability-sector-vaccinations/>

1. Would you please share the "Mandatory vaccination " legislation at this time for health and education workforces?

2 Would you please share all the letters, correspondence, ministerial briefings, etc that led to this 11 Oct 2021 announcement?”

On the 22 May 2026, the Ministry partially transferred the parts of your request referring to education workers to the Ministry of Education under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act. You can expect a response from their agency in due course. Their contact email is info@education.govt.nz.

On 25 May 2026, you were informed by the Ministry that part 2 of your request covered a substantial amount of information and documents therefore had potential to be refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research. Subsequently, you were asked to refine your request, to substantive and final documents only between July and October 2021.

On 29 May 2026 you agreed to refine your request to between July and October 2021 but did not clarify regarding substantive and final documents. In preference to refusing your request under section 18(f), we have addressed your request based on our proposed refinement above.

Please note, the Ministry remains willing and engaged to work with you on any new and refined request you may wish to make. The Ombudsman provides guidance on how to make requests at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/resources/making-official-information-requests.

The Ministry has identified seven documents within the scope of your request. These are itemised below in Appendix 1.

I trust this information fulfils your request. 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.

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.

Nāku noa, nā



Jan Torres
Manager, OIA Services
Corporate Services | Te Pou Tiaki

Appendix 1: List of documents for release

#	Date	Document details	Decision on release
1	30 April 2021	COVID-19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act as this information is publicly available here: https://legislation.govt.nz/secondary-legislation/pco-drafted/2021/94/en/latest/#LMS487853
2	25 August 2021	Aide-Mémoire: HR20211925 Meeting with border worker and health workforce unions to discuss COVID-19 vaccination	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act: www.health.govt.nz/system/files/2026-05/H2026081206.pdf
3	15 September 2021	Memorandum: Scope of amendment to the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Vaccination Order) 2021 to require certain healthcare roles to be undertaken by vaccination individuals	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act: www.health.govt.nz/system/files/2024-06/h202114740_response.pdf
4	28 September 2021	Aide-Mémoire: HR20212113 Talking points on required vaccination for healthcare workers	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act: www.health.govt.nz/system/files/2026-05/H2026081206.pdf
5	4 August 2021	Briefing: HR20211564 COVID-19 Vaccination Uptake for Healthcare Workers	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act: www.health.govt.nz/system/files/2022-12/20211564_briefing.pdf . Please refer to pages 7, 8 and 12.
6	October 2021	Cabinet Paper: Requiring high risk work in the health and disability sector to be undertaken by vaccinated workers	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act: www.health.govt.nz/information-releases/requiring-high-risk-work-in-the-health-and-disability-sector-to-be-undertaken-by-vaccinated-workers
6A	11 October 2021	Cabinet Minute: Requiring High Risk Work in the Health and Disability Sector to be Undertaken by Vaccinated Workers	