



17 June 2026

Penny Claridge
fyi-request-34797-16d74416@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0774

Tēnā koe Penny,

Official Information Act request relating to pandemic preparedness, GAVI, and the New Zealand-India Free Trade Agreement

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act (the Act), which was received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 29 May 2026. You requested:

"[...] the following information:

- 1. Any papers, briefings, agendas, or records of decisions from the Cabinet National Security Committee (NSC) that address pandemic preparedness in the context of New Zealand's relationship with GAVI (the Vaccine Alliance), the World Health Organization, or the Gates Foundation, during the period 1 January 2024 to date.*
- 2. Any papers, briefings, agendas, or records of decisions from the Cabinet National Security Committee or any Cabinet committee that address the implications of the New Zealand-India Free Trade Agreement for New Zealand's national security or biosecurity, specifically including any discussion of pharmaceutical supply chain resilience or emergency vaccine procurement, during the period 1 January 2024 to 26 April 2026.*
- 3. Any correspondence, briefing papers, or records of communication between DPMC officials and Helen Clark - in any capacity - regarding pandemic preparedness, GAVI's role in New Zealand's health security framework, or the NZ-India FTA pharmaceutical provisions, during the period 1 January 2024 to date.*
- 4. Any DPMC or Cabinet records that address New Zealand's obligations or commitments under GAVI's co-financing or support agreements, and whether those commitments were considered during NZ-India FTA negotiations, during the period 1 January 2024 to 26 April 2026.*
- 5. Any DPMC assessments, risk papers, or briefings regarding the 2026 WHO Public Health Emergency of International Concern declarations - specifically the Bundibugyo Ebola outbreak in DRC/Uganda (declared 17 May 2026) and the Bangladesh measles outbreak - prepared during the period 1 January 2026 to date.*

I note that some of this information may be subject to confidentiality claims on national security grounds under section 6(a) of the Official Information Act 1982. I request that any such withholding be assessed carefully against the public interest in transparency

regarding decisions that affect New Zealand's pandemic preparedness framework and publicly-funded health infrastructure."

For ease of reference, we have numbered the parts of your request.

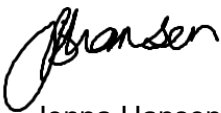
I believe Part 1 of your request is more closely connected to the functions of the Ministry of Health (MoH), while Part 2 is more closely connected to the functions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) and the Minister for Trade and Investment, Hon Todd McClay. Part 4 of your request, insofar as this seeks Cabinet material, is also more closely connected to the Minister for Trade and Investment.

Accordingly, under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act, I have decided to transfer Part 1 of your request to the Ministry of Health, as well as Part 2 and the relevant aspects of Part 4 of your request to the Minister for Trade and Investment,. As MFAT has already received a similar request from you, they have advised that a formal transfer of Part 2 to them is not required in this instance. We therefore refer you to MFAT's forthcoming response with respect to Part 2 of your request. Parts 3, 5 and the remainder of Part 4 will remain with DPMC.

Finally, because of the consultations needed in order to reach these decisions, the timeframe for transfer has also been extended under section 15A of the Act.

The Ministry of Health and the Minister for Trade and Investment have the usual timeframes under the Act from receipt of this transfer to make a decision on your request.

Nāku noa, nā



Jenna Hansen

Manager, Accountability and Ministerial Services