

J M Harris

By email: fyi-request-12788-865cfe84@requests.fyi.org.nz  
Ref: H202002979

Dear Mr Harris

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

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 6 May 2020 to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) for:


*“Total Number of Deaths in New Zealand per week from 1 January 2015 to 30 April 2020  
Under the Official Information Act I am requesting data on how many deaths in New  
Zealand occurred for each week of the year from 1 January 2015 to 30 April 2020”*

The Ministry is providing you the information of deaths registered per week from 1 January 2015 to 9 April 2020. This is attached as Document 1. The numbers from 2018 onwards are a preliminary progress count and should not be reported as official Ministry figures. Please note not all registered deaths will have been supplied to the Ministry including recent periods. The information of the number of deaths per week from 16 April 2020 to 30 April 2020 is not held by the Ministry at this time. As such, this part of your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act as the information is not held by the Ministry. I understand that you have already made this request to other agencies who may also hold relevant data and therefore we have not transferred this part of your request.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website.

Yours sincerely



Gaynor Bradfield  
**Manager Office of the Deputy Director-General  
Data and Digital**