



23 July 2020

Chris Smith  
fyi-request-13342-0ebddc98@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2020/21-0030

Dear Chris Smith

**Official Information Act request relating to the CovidCard**

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act (the Act), received on 17 July 2020. You requested:

*"I refer to this article dated 17 July 2020, authored by Patrick Smellie of BusinessDesk <https://thespinoff.co.nz/politics/16-07-2020/tracer-app-almost-certain-to-achieve-nothing-covidcard-backers-told-pm/>*

*In which, it is detailed that "CovidCard" delivered a report to officials about their product and trials.*

*"The Ministry of Health's Covid Tracer smartphone app is "almost certain to achieve nothing with regard to slowing the virus," says a report received in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet more than a month ago from the backers of an alternative tracing technology option known as the CovidCard."*

*I would like to request a copy of that report.*

*Additionally, if not documented in that report, I would like to request information held about the CovidCard device as trialed, and proposed specifications of a production model. Specifically, information surrounding its form factor and battery life."*

I believe that the information you have requested is more closely connected with the functions of the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA). Accordingly, I have decided under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act to transfer your request to DIA.

DIA has 20 working days from receipt of this transfer to make a decision on your request.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Corbett  
**Manager, Ministerial and Legal Services**