

B. Clarke

By email: fyi-request-13489-92830552@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H202007071

Dear B. Clarke

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 (the Ministry) which was clarified on 9 September 2020 to:

"please provide copies of all advice and memoranda (in whatever form) dealing with policy arguments for and against (a) the use of managed isolation facilities in New Zealand as a border-control response to the COVID-19 pandemic and (b) charging users for their stay in managed isolation facilities."

The Government has proactively released decision-making documents relating to COVID-19. A further proactive release of the papers, minutes, and key advice for the decisions the Government has made relating to COVID-19 will be released shortly.

The Ministry has identified 16 documents within scope of your request, 14 of which are already publicly available on the Unite Against COVID-19 website. The remaining two documents have been refused. One of these documents was withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act "to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown" and the other is refused under section 18(d) of the Act as it will soon be made publicly available.

Documents that have been identified within scope of your request are itemised in Appendix One of this letter along with my decision on the release.

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



Maree Roberts
Deputy Director-General
System Strategy and Policy

Appendix One: List of documents

#	Date	Title	Decision on release
1	N/A	Cabinet paper, Request to make COVID-19 a quarantinable disease under the Health Act 1956	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release/Request-to-Make-COVID-19-a-Quarantinable-Disease-under-the-Health-Act-1956-Paper-09-03-20.pdf
2	N/A	Cabinet paper, COVID-19 Review of Temporary Border Measures	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release/COVID-19-Review-of-Temporary-Border-Measures-Paper-24-02-20.pdf
3	N/A	Cabinet paper, Request to make COVID-19 a quarantinable disease under the Health Act 1956	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release/Request-to-Make-COVID-19-a-Quarantinable-Disease-under-the-Health-Act-1956-Paper-09-03-20.pdf
4	N/A	Cabinet paper, Additional border control measures for self-isolation of international arrivals	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release/Additional-Border-Control-Measures-for-Self-Isolation-of-International-Arrivals.pdf
5	N/A	Cabinet paper, Managed arrivals to New Zealand	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release-2020-july/B12-Minute-and-Paper-Managed-Arrivals-into-New-Zealand-9-April-2020.pdf
6	N/A	Cabinet paper, A Sustainable Quarantine and Managed Isolation System	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release-2020-july/B11-Minute-and-Paper-A-Sustainable-Quarantine-and-Managed-Isolation-System-15-June-2020.pdf
7	2 February 2020	HR20200144: Health advice on appropriate border measures for novel coronavirus	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release/Health-advice-on-appropriate-border-measures-for-novel-coronavirus.pdf

8	14 February 2020	HR20200201: Novel Coronavirus – Review of Temporary Border Measures	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release/Novel-Coronavirus-Review-of-Temporary-Border-Measures.pdf
9	14 March 2020	Briefing, Further advice on strengthening border measures for COVID-19	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release/Further-advice-on-strengthening-border-measures-for-COVID-19.pdf
10	24 March 2020	Noting Paper: COVID-19 Border Measures Update	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release/Noting-Paper-COVID-19-Border-Measures-Update-Paper-24-03-20.pdf
11	25 March 2020	Noting Paper: COVID-19 Border Measures Update	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release/COVID-19-Border-Measures-Update.pdf
12	2 April 2020	Noting paper: COVID-19: Welfare of People in Quarantine and Managed Isolation	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release/COVID-19-Welfare-of-People-in-Quarantine-and-Managed-Isolation.pdf
13	17 April 2020	HR20200614: Joint Paper on Managed Arrivals	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release-2020-july/B14-Health-Report-Joint-Paper-on-Managed-Arrivals-5-May-2020.pdf
14	29 May 2020	HR20200818: COVID-19: Funding managed isolation and quarantine ongoing	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document will soon be made publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/updates-and-resources/legislation-and-key-documents/proactive-release/
15	5 June 2020	HR20200920: Addendum to briefing on funding managed isolation and quarantine	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown.
16	20 June 2020	HR20200964: Making an Air Border order under the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 for continued border management	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this document is publicly available at: https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/proactive-release-2020-july/HR21-Health-Report-Making-an-Air-Border-order-under-COVID-19-Public-Health-Response-Act-20-June-2020.pdf