

Bronwyn Pullar

By email: fyi-request-13667-1fbdcc8d@requests.fyi.org.nz  
Ref: H202007002

Dear Bronwyn Pullar

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

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 4 September 2020 for:

*“What programmes of sentinel surveillance testing has been established and implemented by the Ministry of Health and regional health authorities since March 2020 to regularly screen the cohort of young, foreign travellers within NZ for Covid-19, for whom age, shared and transient living arrangements, and socialising skills make them more likely to be asymptomatic, super-spreading carriers of Covid-19, and where barriers to being tested for Covid-19 exist, such as, a lack of any symptoms, the lack of a vehicle to queue up to a testing station, a lack of patience to wait in a queue to be tested, the lack of a local GP, concerns over their visa status, the lack of an incentive to get tested, and/or a carefree, irresponsible attitude?”*

*Please provide copies of all information and official advice provided to the Minister of Health, the all of Government Covid-19 taskforce, and to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, regarding sentinel surveillance testing of the cohort of young, foreign travellers within NZ for Covid-19.”*

Your request for this information is refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information will soon be made publicly available.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse your request

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

Yours sincerely



Nick Allan  
**Manager OIA Services**  
**Office of the Director-General**