



28 January 2021

M P Ross
fyi-request-14532-ee9b0e64@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2020/21-0325

Dear M P Ross

Official Information Act request relating to the purchase of COVID-19 vaccines

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act (the Act), received on 26 January 2021. You requested:

“ On the 17th December 2020 it was announced by Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern that four pre-purchase agreements had been secured for Covid-19 vaccines;

- 750,000 courses from Pfizer/BioNTech;*
- 5 million courses from Janssen;*
- 3.8 million courses from the University of Oxford/AstraZeneca; and*
- 5.36 million courses from Novavax.*

1) Have any of these above actually been purchased (paid for) as of 26/01/2021, rather than just an agreement to buy them in the future?

2) Once purchased (if not already, with Medsafe Approval), what is the estimated date (or days since purchase) for the vaccines to be in NZ ready to be administered.

3) As BioCell Corporation in Papatoetoe has received \$3 million to upgrade their facilities to manufacture commercial quantities of COVID-19 vaccines, Do any of the 4 pre-purchase agreements above New Zealand obtains the rights to manufacture the vaccine in New Zealand? ”

I believe that the information you have requested is more closely connected with the functions of the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment. Accordingly, I have decided under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act to transfer your request to that agency for response.

The Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment has the usual timeframes under the Act from receipt of this transfer to make a decision on your request.

Yours sincerely

Clare Ward
Executive Director
Strategy, Governance & Engagement