

Nigel Gray

By email: fyi-request-14538-ddb3e293@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H202100444

Dear Nigel Gray

Transfer of your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) transferred to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) 26 January 2021 for:

- “1. What due diligence was taken to investigate Pfizer's ethics as a company?*
- 2. Given that Pfizer has successfully been indicted and fined for fraud in the past, what changes to the management of the company were made that reassured you that Pfizer was no longer fraudulent?*
- 3. Were you concerned that Pfizer were so wealthy that any damages caused by their product could simply be seen by the company as a "cost" against their eventual profit and so written off as just "part of the overall cost" for the company? If you were not concerned about this, please explain why not?*
- 4. Please give me a list of the names and positions of those government Ministers and staff who were part of this approval process that enabled Pfizer to gain the contract for providing NZ with Coronavirus or COVID-19 vaccines.*
- 5. Can you please state the reasons as to why NZ Government indemnified Pfizer against damages?*
- 6. What method will NZ government use to deal with harm caused by Pfizer Coronavirus or COVID-19 vaccines to New Zealanders ie. death, permanent disabilities or temporary disabilities?*
- 7. Will ACC be used to pay for damages relating to the above named vaccines?”*

The Ministry does not hold any information relating to your request; however, I have been advised that this information is more closely connected with the functions of the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). For this reason, I have decided to transfer your request to MBIE under section 14 of the Act. You can expect a response from MBIE in due course.

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

Yours sincerely

Nick Allan
Manager OIA Services
Office of the Director-General

Copy of OIA request

Giles Bollinger <Giles.Bollinger@parliament.govt.nz>

Wed 27/01/2021 14:09



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To:

fyi-request-14538-ddb3e293@requests.fyi.org.nz

Kia ora

On behalf of Hon Andrew Little, Minister of Health, thank you for your Official Information request of 26 January 2021:

- "1. What due diligence was taken to investigate Pfizer's ethics as a company?"*
- 2. Given that Pfizer has successfully been indicted and fined for fraud in the past, what changes to the management of the company were made that reassured you that Pfizer was no longer fraudulent?"*
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- 4. Please give me a list of the names and positions of those government Ministers and staff who were part of this approval process that enabled Pfizer to gain the contract for providing NZ with Coronavirus or COVID-19 vaccines."*
- 5. Can you please state the reasons as to why NZ Government indemnified Pfizer against damages?"*
- 6. What method will NZ government use to deal with harm caused by Pfizer Coronavirus or COVID-19 vaccines to New Zealanders ie. death, permanent disabilities or temporary disabilities?"*
- 7. Will ACC be used to pay for damages relating to the above named vaccines?"*

The information requested appears to be more closely associated with the functions and responsibilities of the Ministry of Health. Accordingly I am transferring your request to the Ministry of Health under section 14(b)(ii) of the Official Information Act 1982.

You have the right, under section 28 of the Act, to ask the Ombudsman to review this decision to transfer your request for information.

Ngā mihi nui

Giles Bollinger

Private Secretary (Health) to Hon Andrew Little MP

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Office of Hon Andrew Little MP, Minister of Health, Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations, Minister Responsible for the NZSIS, Minister Responsible for the GCSB, Minister Responsible for Pike River Re-entry Reception +64 4 817 8707 | Ministerial Email a.little@ministers.govt.nz | Web beehive.govt.nz | Postal Freepost Parliament, Private Bag 18 041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

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-----Original Message-----

From: Nigel Gray [<mailto:fyi-request-14538-ddb3e293@requests.fyi.org.nz>]

Sent: Tuesday, 26 January 2021 6:34 PM

To: A Little Office (MIN) <a.little@ministers.govt.nz>

Subject: Official Information request - What due diligence has been taken to ensure Pfizer not fraudulent.

Dear Andrew Little,

Through various media we have been told that Pfizer is the company providing Coronavirus or COVID-19 vaccines to New Zealand. It is also clear this company has a history of fraud and has paid billions in damages for past products. NZ government has just made a media release that they have indemnified Pfizer against any damages caused by said Coronavirus or COVID-19 vaccines.

Can you please tell me

1. What due diligence was taken to investigate Pfizer's ethics as a company?
2. Given that Pfizer has successfully been indicted and fined for fraud in the past, what changes to the management of the company were made that reassured you that Pfizer was no longer fraudulent?
3. Were you concerned that Pfizer were so wealthy that any damages caused by their product could simply be seen by the company as a "cost" against their eventual profit and so written off as just "part of the overall cost" for the company? If you were not concerned about this, please explain why not?
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6. What method will NZ government use to deal with harm caused by Pfizer Coronavirus or COVID-19 vaccines to New Zealanders ie. death, permanent disabilities or temporary disabilities?
7. Will ACC be used to pay for damages relating to the above named vaccines?

Yours faithfully,

Nigel Gray