



25 May 2021

Ref: DOIA 2021-2152

K Roe

fyi-request-14677-99dce613@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear K Roe

Thank you for your email of 27 April 2021 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

How many do you believe voluntarily chose to go from quarantine to hospital and / or some other form of government care (where a government employee is paid to house / feed the returnee)?

Under the Act, agencies are not obliged to form an opinion or create information to answer an official information request.

The two weeks in managed isolation is not voluntary and everyone, apart from those in quarantine-free travel zones, must isolate in a designated facility unless an exemption is sought, and granted.

Exemptions to isolate at a location that is not a Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facility are rare. An exemption will only be approved where we can be confident the health risk of transmission is very low.

Therefore, we have no cases where individuals have voluntarily chosen to isolate at another government run facility. We do have one case where an individual spent their isolation period in hospital undergoing medical treatment, but this was not voluntarily and was based on medical need.

I trust you find the information helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Christina Sophocleous-Jones
GM National Operations Services
Managed Isolation and Quarantine