

21 April 2021

Robin Benson

By email: fyi-request-14897-1309cf88@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: H202103367

Dear Robin Benson

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) which was transferred from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment on 23 March 2021 for:

“ I wish to obtain all relevant documentation including discussions between MBIE and/or other ministries and/or any other public-sector entities, such as the MoH/COVID-19 Technical Advisory Group, relating to decision-making around non-vaccination approaches to COVID19, especially in relation to the justification rationale of the broad decision to focus solely on vaccines.

1. Please provide any and all discussions, considerations, decision-making process including inputs relating to the decision to not fully investigate and monitor non-vaccine prevention, mitigation and treatments in respect of COVID19.

2. If there are is no information pursuant to the above, why is this the case? Please provide a comprehensive response including logical and evidence supporting any such decisions to not undertake assessments as applicable. The rest of the world continues to investigate such non-vaccine responses and have done continually throughout 2020 and to date.”

The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) does not hold any information within the scope of your request. The Ministry's primary focus has been on the establishment and implementation of the COVID-19 vaccine. As such your request for this information is refused under section 18(e) of the Act.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Nick Allan
Manager OIA Services
Office of the Director-General