



14 October 2021

Harold

fyi-request-15528-1d5ecfab@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: OIA-2021/22-0106

Dear Harold

Official Information Act request for two documents on Quarantine Free Travel.

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request that was transferred to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet on 12 August 2021. You requested documents relating to:

“A “scenario planning workshop” relating to pre-departure testing conducted in January.

Another workshop related to Cook Islands quarantine-free travel conducted in May”

On 9 September 2021, the time limits for responding to your request were extended under section 15A of the Act by 25 working days because it necessitated consultations to be undertaken before a decision could be made on the request. Following this extension, I am now in a position to respond.

I am releasing to you the following under the Act:

- Building Confidence in the Trans-Tasman Quarantine Free Travel Zone, dated 16 April 2021
- Building Confidence in Two-Way Quarantine Free Travel between New Zealand the Cook Islands, dated 14 May 2021.

Some information in these documents has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- Section 6(a) - *the making available of that information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand;*
- Section 6(b)(i) - *the making available of that information would be likely to prejudice the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government;*
- Section 7(a)(i) - *the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of the self-governing State of the Cook Islands;*
- Section 7(b)(ii) - *the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice relations between the Government of New Zealand and the Government of the self-governing State of the Cook Islands;*
- Section 9(2)(ba)(i) - *the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of*

similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied

- Section 9(2)(c) - *the withholding of the information is necessary to avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public.*

In making my decision, I have taken the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act into account.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Cheryl Barnes
Deputy Chief Executive
COVID-19 Group