



10 August 2021

Harold

fyi-request-16078-e127427n@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2020/21-0769

Dear Harold

Official Information Act request relating to the Reconnect New Zealand work programme

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 14 July 2021. You requested:

I'd like to request a copy of the Reconnecting New Zealand work programme.

I also request copies of all briefings to Cabinet or any minister relating to the design and implementation of this programme, dated since the beginning of April.

Finally, I request copies of all feedback and advice on this programme supplied to DPMC by the Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group; Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group; and the Business Leaders' Forum, dated since the beginning of April.

The information you have requested is currently under active consideration as final decisions have yet to be made. Therefore, I am withholding this information under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act as the withholding of this information is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

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

It may interest you to know, at 9am on 12 August 2021 there will be an opportunity to hear experts discuss the next steps in the reconnection strategy via livestream through the following link: covid19.govt.nz/reconnecting-new-zealand-to-the-world/

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

We do not intend to publish this response on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website.

Yours sincerely

Cheryl Barnes
Deputy Chief Executive, COVID-19 Response