



10 September 2021

Harold  
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Ref: OIA-2021/22-0111

Dear Harold

### Official Information Act request relating to Reconnecting New Zealand

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 13 August 2021. You requested:

- 1) *"The Reconnecting New Zealand work programme*
- 2) *All briefings to Cabinet or any minister relating to this programme, dated since the beginning of April*
- 3) *All feedback or advice on this programme received by DPMC from 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 in parts one and two of your request are intended for proactive release in due course. This information will be available on the Unite Against COVID-19 website through the following link: [covid19.govt.nz/alert-levels-and-updates/proactive-releases/](https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-levels-and-updates/proactive-releases/). Therefore, I am refusing these parts of your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the information will soon be publicly available.

Advice provided by the Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group that is within scope of your request has been published on the Unite against COVID-19 website and can be accessed through the following link: [covid19.govt.nz/alert-levels-and-updates/independent-advisory-groups/scphag/](https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-levels-and-updates/independent-advisory-groups/scphag/). I am therefore also refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the information is publicly available.

The COVID-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group are briefed on the Reconnecting New Zealand Programme and occasionally provide feedback as captured through the groups meeting minutes. These minutes are also intended for proactive release in the next few weeks on the Unite against COVID-19 website (see: [covid19.govt.nz/alert-levels-and-updates/independent-advisory-groups/cicriag/](https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-levels-and-updates/independent-advisory-groups/cicriag/)).

I note that the advice provided by the Business Leaders Forum on the Reconnecting New Zealand Programme was verbal.

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**