



Ross Francis  
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Reference: OIA-2021/22-0017

Dear Ross Francis

**Official Information Act request relating to side effects of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine**

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act (the Act), received on 18 July 2021. You requested:

*“did the New Zealand Government ask Pfizer, or any of its representatives, to pay (either partly or fully) for the cost of treating possible serious side-effects in New Zealand? If so, what was the value of any suggested contribution and what was Pfizer’s response?”*

*During the Prime Minister’s meetings with Pfizer in 2021, was the issue of possible serious side-effects discussed? If so, please provide me with all information held about any such discussion(s).*

*how many people (if any) may suffer serious side-effects from the Covid-19 vaccine(s) in New Zealand?*

*what information was produced between 22 October and 11 December 2020 to diminish concerns about the above adverse events?”*

I believe that parts of your request are more closely connected to the functions of the Ministry of Health. Accordingly, I have decided under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act to transfer this part of your request to the Ministry of Health. Your request for information regarding the Prime Ministers conversation with Pfizer will remain with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for response.

The Ministry of Health has the usual timeframes under the Act from receipt of this transfer to make a decision on your request.

Yours sincerely  


Sarah Corbett  
**Manager, Ministerial & Business Services**