

Hon James Shaw

Minister of Climate Change
Associate Minister for the Environment (Biodiversity)



7 October 2021

OIA434

Hemant

fyi-request-16718-4fec2a54@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Hemant,

Thank you for your email of 12 September 2021 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"On the 10 September 2021 on the Radio New Zealand programme "The Panel", you mentioned that currently that you did not have a MIQ spot for the return, and that you will have to apply like everyone else.

I was wondering, if you are in the same boat as everyone else, then you (or someone on your staff will have to use the public facing website and once spots are opened up, wait in the virtual lobby and then try your luck at securing a spot, or is there a different process available for ministers? "

Currently, there is no separate process for Ministers to secure a voucher for Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MIQ), with Ministers using the allocations available to the general public, as specified on the MIQ website at: <https://www.miq.govt.nz/>.

In this instance, a Time Sensitive Travel allocation request has been lodged with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), which makes the assessments and final decisions for such applications. One of the prerequisites of completing a Time Sensitive Travel application is that all reasonable efforts must be taken to secure MIQ via the Managed Isolation Allocation System (MIAS) process.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James Shaw'.

Hon. James Shaw
Minister of Climate Change
Associate Minister for the Environment (Biodiversity)