

6 October 2021

John Luke

By email: fyi-request-16792-6c2943f1@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H202112580

Tēnā koe John

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 19 September 2021 for information relating to the COVID-19 Ethnic vaccine: Ethnic Communities communications fund. Please find a response to each part of your request below:

“Can you please kindly provide the name and bio of these panel member? Their pay rate and term of appointment.”

“Are you having any external member on the panel or simply just the Ministry personal?”

The Ministry has invited four people to form the panel to assess applications for the Ethnic Communities communications fund. This panel will consist of one person from the Ministry of Health COVID-19 Vaccine Programme (CVIP), a senior staff member from the Ministry for Ethnic Communities (MEC), the National President of the New Zealand Red Cross and a Senior Human Rights Advisor for the New Zealand Human Right Commission.

- The panel member from CVIP is Beth Williams. Beth is the Manager, Engagement (non-Health) within the COVID-19 Vaccine and Immunisation programme and has worked on the Disabled Persons Communications Fund panel previously. Her responsibility is to help manage the panel through the required processes, in addition to managing the team within CVIP Comms and Engagement who work with stakeholders from a wide range of ethnic communities.
- The panel member from MEC is Fleur Murray, who is the Deputy Chief Executive of Corporate Affairs. Part of this portfolio includes being responsible for the communications team within MEC.
- The panel member from the New Zealand Red Cross is Kerry Nickels. Kerry is the National President of New Zealand Red Cross, a humanitarian organisation that seeks to improve the lives of vulnerable people, supporting communities through conflict and disaster and helping to build community resilience.
- The panel member from the New Zealand Human Rights Commission is Martine Abel-Williamson. Martine is a Senior Human Rights Advisor for the New Zealand Human Rights Commission and has also previously worked on the Disabled Persons Communications Fund panel. Martine has 11 years' experience at a local government level where she held roles in community development and policy advisory areas. Her networks span widely into ethnic and culturally diverse communities.

There is no specific payment or term of appointment as a member of the panel. The members are contributing to the panel as part of their existing roles.

“How did you call for public expression of interest for these panel members positions?”

The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) did not call for expressions of interest. The Ministry discussed and agreed the approach with MEC and asked the two other organisations to put forward a suitable member for the panel.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry of Health website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Gibbs', with a small dot at the end.

Jo Gibbs
National Director
COVID-19 Vaccine and Immunisation Programme