

15 November 2021

Hiria Te Rangi

By email: [fyi-request-17225-08045d39@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-17225-08045d39@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Ref: H202114519

Tēnā koe Hiria

### **Response to your request for official information**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 17 October 2021 to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry). Please find a response to each parts of your request below.

*Could you please tell me who (as in organisation and team not person/s) collects vaccination centre, location of interest and testing site information for publishing to the public by the Ministry of Health?*

Vaccination centre testing site information is provided directly to Healthpoint by the district health boards (DHBs), vaccination and testing centres, general practitioners, pharmacies and Māori and Pasifika organisations as they manage those locations. Locations of interests are identified by public health units (PHUs) during case investigation and as such are provided by the DHBs. This information is published on Healthpoint at: [www.healthpoint.co.nz](http://www.healthpoint.co.nz).

The Ministry also provides information to Healthpoint relating to saliva testing drop-off and pick-up locations, as the Ministry holds the contract for saliva testing, and is not held by the DHBs.

*Who has ultimate authority over vaccination centre, location of interest and testing site information is it the Ministry of Health or someone else?*

Each vaccination or testing service is the owner of the information on Healthpoint. Healthpoint has permission from each service to publish this information on the Healthpoint website and to share it through the Healthpoint API.

*Is vaccination centre, location of interest and testing site information considered public data? As the creation of vaccination and testing centres and the contact tracing service are funded by public monies.*

The data that comes from these sites is held by the Ministry and is frequently published at the following links:

- [www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-health-advice-public/contact-tracing-covid-19/covid-19-contact-tracing-locations-interest](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-health-advice-public/contact-tracing-covid-19/covid-19-contact-tracing-locations-interest)

- [www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-data-and-statistics/covid-19-case-demographics](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-data-and-statistics/covid-19-case-demographics)
- <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/covid-19/>

*What is the working relationship of Ministry of Health and Healthpoint, as in what service or services does Healthpoint provide the Ministry.*

The Ministry has several contracts with Healthpoint to provide locational data for several different services. Each contract is funded out of the budget of the business unit that holds the contract. The Ministry currently has contracts with Healthpoint for provision of testing information, saliva testing locations, and vaccination location information.

*Is the information held by Healthpoint within the Healthpoint Directory website [www.healthpoint.co.nz/public data?](http://www.healthpoint.co.nz/public-data/)*

Please refer to question 1 above.

*Does Healthpoint pay the Ministry of Health for the information that is contained within the Healthpoint Directory?*

Healthpoint does not pay the Ministry for the information contained within the Healthpoint Directory, however, the Ministry does pay Healthpoint a licencing fee to host testing and vaccination information on their platform.

*Does the Ministry of Health know that Healthpoint charges a fee to Health organisations in order to access the Healthpoint Directory API?*

The Ministry is aware of this. This is part of the Healthpoint business model and is a very common business model for internet-based businesses. The fee charge by Healthpoint is for the API service for example API infrastructure, hosting, Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources standards compliance etc.

*Why doesn't Ministry of Health pay the fee for all Health organisations to use the Healthpoint API?*

The Ministry provides funding to publicly funded health services. If they choose to pay for the Healthpoint API, that is a decision of the respective health organisation. The Ministry is a strategic-level organisation and where we can, avoid interfering in how the DHBs provide operational services.

I trust this information fulfils your request. 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](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Darryl Carpenter  
**Group Manager**  
**COVID-19 Immunisation, Testing and Supply**