

Ref: 211327

Wednesday, 17 November 2021

Chuck Schooner
By email to Chuck Schooner

Tēnā koe Chuck Schooner

Response to your request for Official Information

On 19 October 2021, you requested from the Human Rights Commission (“the Commission”) the following information:

1. The Labour government come this Friday are likely to implement active discrimination against their own citizens contravening The Human Rights Act of unvaccinated. Has the Human Rights Act changed?
2. Why is the government blatantly disregarding the Human Rights of New Zealanders specifically trying to instruct providers of goods and services to actively discriminate against a part of the population?
3. If this was any other group there would be outrage - what makes them above the law in this instance? This is blatant discrimination.

General response

In general, the request you have made to the Commission falls outside the Official Information Act 1982 (“the Act”), in that the information is not specified with due particularity. The Act does not require the Commission to create an opinion, or to provide information which either does not exist or is publicly available.

In response to your questions:

1. No, the Human Rights Act 1993 has not changed.
2. And 3: your questions at points 2 and 3 are directed to and relate to obligations by the State (not National Human Rights Institutions, which are independent of the departments of State).

As the information requested is either publicly available and providing it further would require substantial collation or does not exist, we are declining to provide further information under ss 18(e) and 18(f) of the Act.

The Commission has a collection of resources which are publicly available on our website. In particular, you may be interested in information about human rights in

relation to Covid-19, which can be found here:

<https://www.hrc.co.nz/resources/human-rights-relation-covid-19/>

Alternative avenues

If you are unhappy with this response, under the Official Information Act you are entitled to complain to the Ombudsman's Office. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or on freephone 0800 802 602.

If you have any further queries about this response, please feel free to contact us on OIA@hrc.co.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicky Wynne', written in a cursive style.

Nicky Wynne
Senior Legal Adviser