



22 July 2022

Sebastian
fyi-request-17765-df9fda52@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: OIA-2021/22-0684

Dear Sebastian

Official Information Act request relating to minutes of meetings held at beginning of June for following groups

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 29 November 2021. You requested:

"I would like to request copies of the minutes of all meetings held since the beginning of June for the following three COVID-19 groups:

- 1. COVID-19 Chief Executives Board*
- 2. National Response Leadership Team*
- 3. National Response Group*

I would also like to request a copy of the COVID-19 System Assurance Framework."

As you are aware, a copy of the COVID-19 System Assurance Framework was provided to you on 15 February 2022. We apologise for the delay in responding to the remainder of your request.

Information being released

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed below, subject to information being withheld as noted.

| Item | Document Description/Subject |
|------|--|
| 1. | COVID-19 Chief Executive Board Meeting Minutes (CCB Minutes) |
| 2. | National Response Leadership Team Meeting Minutes (NRLT Minutes) |
| 3. | National Response Group Meeting Minutes (NRG Minutes) |

Please note that the NRLT Minutes were not formally approved by the NRLT members. The minutes were drafted as an informal capture of the discussion to enable a set of key actions out of each meeting, while the members dealt with the quickly evolving situation of COVID-19.

Please also note that there is an incorrect figure in the CCB minute from 3 August, on page 37, paragraph 14. The sentence states *'the CCB heard that the programme is close to delivering its twelve-millionth dose, which equates to 25% of the population having received one dose.'* This is incorrect, as of 3 August 2021 NZ had delivered approximately 2 million doses - <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/448437/covid-19-vaccine-update-two-million-doses-administered-in-new-zealand>.

The relevant grounds under which information has been withheld are:

1. section 6(a), as the making available of that information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand
2. section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals
3. section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials
4. section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion
5. section 9(2)(h), to maintain legal professional privilege

In making my decision, I have taken the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act into account.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely



Ruth Fairhall
Deputy Chief Executive
COVID-19 Response Group