

30 June 2022

Scott

By email: [fyi-request-19354-3b6378aa@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-19354-3b6378aa@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
Ref: H202207702

Tēnā koe Scott

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

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 7 June 2022 regarding the Waikato District Health Board (DHB) ransomware incident. You specifically requested:

*“a copy of the close-out report or debrief for the Ministry's incident management response to the Waikato DHB ransomware incident”.*

The release of the information you have requested is likely to compromise the service user information and the health and safety of patients, as well as disclose details that would increase the security risk of Waikato DHB and other public health bodies. For this reason, the information requested is withheld in full under the following sections of the Act:

- Section 6(c), as the release of the information is likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial; and
- Section 9(2)(ba)(i), as it is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence and making it available would likely prejudice the supply of similar information or information from the same source; and
- Section 9(2)(c), as it is necessary to avoid prejudice to measures to protect the health or safety of the public; and
- Section 9(2)(e), as it is necessary to avoid prejudice to measures that prevent or mitigate material loss to members of the public.

I have considered the countervailing public interest in release in making this decision and consider that it does not outweigh the need to withhold at this time

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.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal tail.

Gaynor Bradfield  
**Manager, Office of the Deputy Director-General  
Data and Digital**