

17 April 2023

J Brunning
fyi-request-22085-ee20eeb5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe J Brunning

Official information request HNZ00013760

Thank you for your email on 29 March 2023, asking for the following information which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“Please supply urgently, between 27 February 2021 and 9 March 2021 the following information:

[a] All discussions via WhatsApp, Signal, Messenger, private email, Parliamentary or political party email by officials, including Ministers and the Director General of Health discussing Pfizer, BioNTech, the post-marketing report, FDA, deaths and adverse events.”

Your request is refused in full under section 18(f) of the Act, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

On 4 April 2023, Te Whatu Ora advised you that this would be a difficult request to collate as it would require a review of a significant amount of information. Te Whatu Ora explained that it would require substantial collation due to the hundreds of employees and potentially thousands of messages. Under section 13 of the Act, Te Whatu Ora offered to refine your request, but you did not take up this offer. We invited you to narrow the scope of request down to either one organisation or one application (i.e., emails) over a short period of time (i.e., a month). While Te Whatu Ora has considered your request, it has been determined that providing a response would require substantial collation. This is considered ‘substantial’ as it would have a significant and unreasonable impact our ability to carry out their critical operations.

Te Whatu Ora remains willing to engage with you on a revised scope for your request.

How to get in contact

If you have any questions, you can contact us at hnzOIA@health.govt.nz.

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Sasha Wood

Sasha Wood
Interim Lead OIA & Proactive Release
Government Partnership and Risk