

Reference: 20230204

15 June 2023

Liz Blue
fyi-request-22582-b78ca7ba@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Liz

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 27 April 2023. You requested:

- 1. Any documents provided by the Treasury to the Covid-19 Royal Commission of Inquiry*
- 2. Any correspondence between staff employed by the Treasury, and Tony Blakely, Hon Hekia Parata or John Whitehead*
- 3. Any correspondence between staff employed by the Treasury, and staff employed by the Covid-19 Royal Commission of Inquiry.*

On 16 May, we responded to your request and included a summary of administrative correspondence between the Treasury and the COVID-19 Royal Commission of Inquiry (RCol) captured by parts 2 and 3 of your request. You then asked for copies of this correspondence.

On 25 May, we extended our response by 15 working days to undertake consultation about the release of these documents with the RCol.

On 2 June, the RCol issued a Minute of Decision, making interim orders under section 15 (1) of the Inquiries Act 2013 to restrict publication of evidence and submissions to the Inquiry and to restrict public access to meetings and correspondence relating to these meetings. This Minute is available at:

[https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/Files/Royal-Commission-of-Inquiry-into-COVID-19-Lessons/\\$file/Minute-1-Interim-non-publication-evidence-and-submissions-received.pdf](https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/Files/Royal-Commission-of-Inquiry-into-COVID-19-Lessons/$file/Minute-1-Interim-non-publication-evidence-and-submissions-received.pdf)

The documents you have requested are subject to this Order and are not able to be publicly released at this time, in accordance with section 32(2)(a) of the Inquiries Act 2013.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Beaglehole". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Beaglehole" clearly distinguishable.

John Beaglehole
Director, COVID 19 Royal Commission