

31 May 2024

Erika Whittome  
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Ref: OIA 111979

Tēnā koe Erika

### **Official Information Act request: Coroners Court information**

Thank you for your email of 6 May 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), further information to the Ministry of Justice's response to you of 2 May 2024 (our ref: CAR 111156). Specifically, you requested:

*The press statement dated 15 Sep 2021 from Chief coroner Judge Deborah Marshall said that the cause of death was not related to the vaccine prior to the coroner's formal investigation.*

*From the 10th Sept 2021 - 15 Sept 2021:*

*Kindly share all memos, emails, text messages and other online/digital correspondence (eg whatsapp, MSTeams) between Chief coroner Judge Deborah Marshall, her staff between:*

*-the Department of the Prime Minister's Office, -Jacinda Ardern, -The CV TAG -and any Ministry of Health staff including Medsafe.*

Your request is seeking all online/ digital information sent between a former judicial officer, and various organisations or individuals relating to a press statement the previous Chief Coroner made about Coroners Court cases being linked to the COVID-19 vaccination.

In response I can advise that the Ministry does not hold any information relevant to your request. This information may be held by the Coroners Court, which falls outside the scope of the OIA under section 2(6)(a). Your request is therefore refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds for believing it is held by another agency subject to the Act.

If you require any further information, please contact Media & Social Media Manager Joe Locke at [media@justice.govt.nz](mailto:media@justice.govt.nz). Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses](https://www.justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses)

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Jacquelyn Shannon  
**Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Services Delivery**