

19 June 2024

Erika Whittome
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Our ref: F35010
By email

Dear Erika

Official Information Act request: Vaccination requirements at Maritime NZ

I refer to your request of 22 May 2024 in which you requested the following:

“Under the Official Information Act, provide the following information:

- 1. Was Covid 19 a disease reported to Worksafe by Maritime NZ?*
- 2. Did Covid 19 arise out of the nature of work at Maritime NZ?*
- 3. Is there or was there in the past, any genetic “gain of function” work taking place at Maritime NZ facilities on corona viruses, or the nursing of corona virus patients at these facilities?*

Please provide:

- 4. The written authorisation plus its date from the Director General specifying persons at Maritime NZ who were authorised enforcement person(s) under section 18 (1) (e) the Covid-19 Public Health Response Act 2020. Please provide the functions and powers that could be carried out by the authorised enforcement person(s) and;*
- 5. Number of exemptions issued to Maritime NZ workers under clause 9 of the Covid 19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021;*
- 6. Any other exemptions issued to staff, please provide grounds and number issued and;*
- 7. In relation to covid 19 vaccines, any payment Maritime NZ and/or its subsidiaries received for each staff member that was vaccinated, the amount and the scheme the payment was provided under and;*
- 8. Any payment the Maritime NZ and/or its subsidiaries received for leasing or renting floor space for vaccination in 2021 - 2023 , eg super Saturdays events, staff vaxathons*

On 25 May we sought clarification from you about question 2, to which you replied: Dear Ministerial Services,

Yes section 199 covers workplace diseases.

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2015/0070/latest/DLM5977194.html>

Did Covid 19 arise out of the type of work taking place?

Response

1. *Was Covid 19 a disease reported to Worksafe by Maritime NZ?*

Maritime NZ did not report COVID-19 cases to WorkSafe as it was not mandatory to do so.

2. *Did Covid 19 arise out of the nature of work at Maritime NZ?*

COVID-19 did not arise from the work of Maritime NZ.

3. *Is there or was there in the past, any genetic “gain of function” work taking place at Maritime NZ facilities on corona viruses, or the nursing of corona virus patients at these facilities?*

There is not nor ever has been genetic gain of function work or nursing of patients at Maritime NZ premises.

Please provide:

4. *The written authorisation plus its date from the Director General specifying persons at Maritime NZ who were authorised enforcement person(s) under section 18 (1) (e) the Covid-19 Public Health Response Act 2020. Please provide the functions and powers that could be carried out by the authorised enforcement person(s) and;*

No one from Maritime NZ was authorised under s. 18(1)(e) of the Public Health Response Act 2020.

5. *Number of exemptions issued to Maritime NZ workers under clause 9 of the Covid 19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021;*

6. *Any other exemptions issued to staff, please provide grounds and number issued and;*

There were no exemptions issued to Maritime NZ staff under clause 9 of the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021 or for any other reason.

7. *In relation to covid 19 vaccines, any payment Maritime NZ and/or its subsidiaries received for each staff member that was vaccinated, the amount and the scheme the payment was provided under and;*

No payments were made to Maritime NZ for vaccination of staff.

8. *Any payment the Maritime NZ and/or its subsidiaries received for leasing or renting floor space for vaccination in 2021 - 2023 , eg super Saturdays events, staff vaxathons*

Maritime NZ did not hold any vaccine events.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response (with your personal details removed) may be published on Maritime New Zealand's website.

If you wish to discuss this decision, please feel free to email us at ministerial.services@maritimenz.govt.nz .

Yours sincerely



Christine Ross
Manager, Communication and Ministerial Services