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15 July 2024

Andrew Riddell

By email: fyi-request-27113-0098b5c9@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: H2024044578

Tēnā koe Andrew

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), which was partially transferred from Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora (Health NZ) to the Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on 14 June 2024. You requested:

“Copies of the assessments/briefings/reports to the Minister of Health on the future of covid-19 public health measures made this year.”

Below is a list of advice sent to the Minister of Health regarding future pandemic preparedness:

- Briefing: Budget 24: Shifting to a sustainable strategy for managing COVID-19 and preparing for future outbreaks and pandemics (H2024034757) – sent 26 January 2024
- Briefing: Budget 24: COVID-19 initiative: draft letter to the Minister of Finance (H2024035664) – sent 5 February 2024
- Briefing: Vote Health 2024: bilateral meeting with the Minister of Finance (H2024037061) – sent 8 February 2024
- Aide Mémoire: COVID-19 Context (H2024035351) - sent 13 February 2024
- Aide Mémoire: Talking points regarding the Budget 2024 proposal for ongoing system resilience and pandemic preparedness (H2024036051) – sent 19 February 2024
- Briefing: Budget 2024: Further material to support the Vote Health package (H2024036600) – sent 29 February 2024
- Briefing: Options to improve ventilation (H2024036633) – sent 25 March 2024
- Briefing: Budget 2024: Options to support the primary care sector and scaling COVID-19 time-limited funding (H2024038078) – sent 3 April 2024
- Briefing: Health system pandemic preparedness (H2024036792) – sent 8 April 2024
- Aide Mémoire: Face mask overview and a response to the PHCC report (H2024042477) – sent 7 June 2024

Shortly after *Aide Memoire: Face mask overview and a response to the PHCC report* was sent to the Minister of Health, Health NZ also sent a statement to district health leads reiterating the importance of face masks in health care settings.

These briefings are refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as they are currently being prepared for proactive release and will soon be made publicly available on the Ministry's website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/advice-provided-ministers.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: oiagr@health.govt.nz.

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 or by calling 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Jane Chambers
Acting Deputy Director-General
Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui