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17 July 2024

Catherine Jamieson

By email: fyi-request-27390-19d55bdf@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: H2024045192

Tēnā koe Catherine

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on 26 June 2024. Each part of your request is responded to below:

Official Information request - CV-TAG Minutes 27 January 2021

PART 1:

Please provide the above minutes and if there were any earlier meetings, minutes of those too.

Please check that the response is minutes of CV-TAG not CTAG, that any links provided actually link to the requested information or that any material referenced includes the meeting minutes for the requested date(s).

Please find attached as document 1, the minutes for the 27 January 2021 COVID-19 Vaccine Strategy Science and Technical Advisory Group (STAG). Where information is withheld under section 9 of the Act, I have considered the countervailing public interest in release in making this decision and consider that it does not outweigh the need to withhold at this time.

Please note these minutes are from a group established by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment that was called the STAG (Science and Technical Advisory Group). This group met on a number of occasions prior to the responsibility for vaccine technical advice moving to the Ministry of Health where it was renamed the COVID-19 Technical Advisory Group (CV TAG). There were no other Ministry of Health meetings regarding advice on COVID-19 vaccines prior to the establishment of CV TAG.

You may be interested in further information the CV TAG provided in terms of science advice and recommendations on the use of COVID-19 vaccinations. All relevant memos and advice has been published on the Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora website here:

www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/corporate-information/about-us/expert-groups/covid-19-vaccine-technical-advisory-group-cv-tag/.

PART 2:

Ministry of Health (2022, July). Tikanga Whakahaere - Ministry of Health Operating Model.

Please provide a copy of the above as referred to in footnote 4 page 13 of <https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/27-november-mac-high-level-assessment.pdf>

The document referred to above is attached as document 2. Please note this document is now out of date and will be refreshed later this year.

I trust this information fulfils your request. 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.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā



Dr Andrew Old
Deputy Director-General
Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui

Appendix 1: List of documents for release

#	Date	Document details	Decision on release
1	27 January 2021	STAG Meeting Minutes	Some information withheld under section <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9(2)(a) of the Act for privacy of natural persons.• 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act where its release would likely unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information.
2	July 2022	Ministry of Health Tikanga Whakahaere Operating Model	Released in Full.