



16 August 2021

BEB OIA 21-004

Sebastian

By email: fyi-request-15553-e4de83f9@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Sebastian

Request for official information

Thank you for your email dated 19 July 2021 to the Border Executive Board Secretariat requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Dated from the beginning of May:

- 1) *Copies of the minutes of all BEB meetings*
- 2) *Copies of all reports produced by BEB and supplied to the Minister for the COVID-19 Response*

The minute for the 1st April BEB meeting refers to a "facilitated CEs workshop – scheduled for 4 June." I would like to request copies of the following documents relating to this workshop:

- 1) *The agenda*
- 2) *Any prepared presentations (as for instance PowerPoint slides)*
- 3) *The write-up, minutes or other document summarising the workshop and its outcomes*

We have decided to grant your request in part, namely information relating to:

- Copies of the minutes of all BEB meetings since May 2021
- Copies of reports to the Minister for COVID-19 Response signed out by the Chair of the Border Executive Board. These reports are:
 - *RPT 21/021 – Implementation of return green flights from Victoria*
 - *RPT 21/026 – Implementation of pre-departure testing as trans-Tasman travel resumes*
 - *RPT 21/027 – Minister's Satisfaction Survey: 11 January 2021 to 30 June 2021*
 - *RPT 21/029 – Implementation of PDT for all air passenger arrivals from Australia*
 - *RPT 21/033 – Increasing compliance assurance over pre-departure testing for air passenger arrivals from Australia*

However, it will take us some time to prepare this information for release and some parts of these documents will be redacted. We will send you the above information on or before 27 August 2021.

We have also decided to refuse your request for information relating to the "facilitated CEs workshop – scheduled for 4 June" under section 18(e) of the Act on the basis that the information does not exist. While the workshop referred to in the minutes of 1 April 2021 was scheduled for 4 June 2021, it has not yet taken place.

The following three reports to the Minister for COVID-19 Response are in scope of your request but are being withheld in full:

- *RPT 21/015 – Extending quarantine-free travel to the maritime sector and phasing the resumption of commercial ships, passenger cruises and small craft*
- *RPT 21/025 – Preparations for two-way quarantine-free travel between New Zealand and Niue*
- *RPT 21/016 – COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements at the Border (Tranche 2 Advice)*

Reports 21/015 and 21/025 are being withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act as both are still under active consideration. We have considered the public interest arguments in favour of making these reports available; however, it is considered that these interests do not outweigh the necessity to withhold the information.

RPT 21/016 is being withheld in full under section 18(d) of the Act, as it will soon be made publically available on the Ministry of Transport's website:

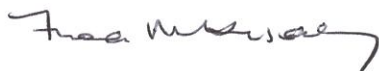
<https://www.transport.govt.nz/about-us/what-we-do/proactive-releases/SearchForm>

If you are not satisfied with my response, you have the right, by way of complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available online at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or alternatively the Office of the Ombudsman can be contacted on 0800 802 602.

I also wish to advise that the Border Executive Board Secretariat may proactively release responses to Official Information Act requests on the Board Executive Board page hosted on the Customs' website. As such, this response, without your name and contact details, may be published on the website after it has been sent to you.

If you have any queries about this response, please contact the Border Executive Board Secretariat at BEB.info@customs.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Fiona McKissock
Executive Director
Border Executive Board