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8 December 2022

Scott

By email: [fyi-request-20812-956a1427@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-20812-956a1427@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
Ref: H2022015218

Tēnā koe Scott

### Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 20 October 2022. Your request is copied below and responded to in turn:

*In a document released on the Unite Against COVID-19 website recently, a Ministry of Health document called the “COVID-19 Management Plan” is referenced*

*“...the MoH Manatū Hauora COVID-19 Management Plan, which outlines MoH’s role as lead agency for the public health system...” (Quote on page 4).*

*I would like to request a copy of this plan.*

The document you have requested is the transitioning version of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) National Management Plan to a Ministry of Health Management Plan and is still in development. Therefore, this document has been withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act to maintain the constitutional conventions that protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials.

Manatū Hauora has developed and operated Resurgence and Response Management Plans throughout the COVID-19 response that align to guide and support the National Management Plans. The National Management Plan responsibilities and content is currently transitioning from DPMC to Manatū Hauora and the Public Health Agency. As such, the content of the plan is being reviewed and updated to reflect this transition, inclusive of the roles and responsibilities across the public health system.

*I would like to request copies of the briefings prepared for ministers to inform their decision to renew the Epidemic Notice for COVID-19, for the renewals which occurred in June and September this year.*

*For clarity, I am seeking copies of the kind of briefing released by the Ministry in response to another OIA request, here:*

*<https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202207410.pdf>  
but for the renewals which occurred in June and September this year.”*

Manatū Hauora has identified two documents within scope of this part of your request. Both documents are publicly available (linked below).

I trust this information fulfils your request. 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](mailto: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](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Old', written in a cursive style.

Dr Andrew Old  
**Deputy Director-General  
Public Health Agency**

## Appendix 1: List of documents for release

#	Date	Document details	Decision on release
1	14 June 2022	Briefing – Renewal of the Epidemic Notice under section 7(1) of the Epidemic Preparedness Act 2006 (No 9)	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information requested is publicly available: <a href="http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests/information-related-epidemic-preparedness-notices-march-2020-june-2022">www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests/information-related-epidemic-preparedness-notices-march-2020-june-2022</a>
2	9 September 2022	Briefing – Review of the Epidemic Preparedness (COVID-19) Notice 2020	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information requested is publicly available: <a href="http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests/information-related-epidemic-preparedness-notice-september-2022">www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests/information-related-epidemic-preparedness-notice-september-2022</a>