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29 November 2022

Scott

By email: fyi-request-20877-a2513714@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H2022014882

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 17 October 2022 for:

All reviews of the COVID-19 Protection Framework settings dated since the beginning of July 2022. For clarity, I am seeking copies of the kind of reviews released here (on page 25):
which is the CPF review completed in June this year, and where it is mentioned that these reviews are conducted on a regular basis (monthly). So my request is for copies of the other reviews in this series, dated since the beginning of July this year.
In a recent press release on the Ministry website it is stated that:
“The Ministry of Health carries out regular COVID-19 public health assessments and updates its advice to Government on appropriate public health measures based on the latest evidence.”
I take this to mean that regular COVID-19 public health risk assessments have continued to be produced by the Ministry, even past the end of the CPF on 12 September.
I would like to request copies of all regular COVID-19 public health risk assessments, of the type referred to in the press release, that have been produced since 12 September.

Three documents have been identified as being within the scope of your request. All documents are itemised in Appendix 1 and copies of the documents are attached. Where information is withheld, this is outlined in the Appendix and noted in the document itself. Where information is withheld under section 9 of the Act, I have considered the countervailing public interest and consider that it does not outweigh the need to withhold at this time.

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



Steve Waldegrave
Associate Deputy Director-General
Strategy, Policy and Legislation | Te Pou Rautaki

Appendix 1: List of documents for release

#	Date	Document details	Decision on release
1	1 August 2022	Memo – Review of COVID-19 Protection Framework settings – 27 July 2022	Some information withheld under the following sections of the Act: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers and officers and employees of any public service agency, and• Section 9(2)(h), to maintain legal professional privilege.
2	17 August 2022	Memo – Public Health Risk Assessment of COVID-19 Mandated Response Measures – 17 August 2022	Refused under section 18(d) as the information requested is publicly available at: www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/memo_-_phra_of_covid-19_mandated_measures_17_august_2022.pdf
3	12 October 2022	Memo – Public Health Risk Assessment of COVID-19 mandated response measures, 3 October 2022	Some information withheld under the following sections of the Act: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 9(2)(g)(i),• Section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the constitutional conventions that protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials, and• Section 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.