

Reference: 20230204



16 May 2023

Liz Blue  
fyi-request-22582-b78ca7ba@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Liz

I refer to your Official Information Act request, received on 27 April 2023. You requested:

- 1. Any documents provided by the Treasury to the Covid-19 Royal Commission of Inquiry*
- 2. Any correspondence between staff employed by the Treasury, and Tony Blakely, Hon Hekia Parata or John Whitehead*
- 3. Any correspondence between staff employed by the Treasury, and staff employed by the Covid-19 Royal Commission of Inquiry.*

Generally, you may be interested in Treasury's advice to the Government on the response to COVID-19 which has been proactively released on the Treasury website at: <https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/information-release/advice-covid-19-response-information-release> and <https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/information-release/unite-against-covid-19-information-release>.

With relation to part 1 of your request, evidence given, or submissions made, to a Royal Commission is not considered official information, as set out in section 2(1)(h) of the Official Information Act.

With relation to parts 2 and 3, Treasury holds some official information that is relevant to your request. It relates to administrative tasks, such as scheduling meetings, requests for information and discussions about delivery of submissions to the COVID 19 Royal Commission of Inquiry (RCol). I have summarised this information in the table below.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	<b>Description</b>
21 February 2023	E-mail from Treasury to RCol	This e-mail discusses background information for a meeting between the Treasury and RCol
28 February 2023	E-mails between Treasury and RCol	Correspondence related to scheduling a meeting with Treasury and RCol

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16 March 2023	Letter from RCol to Treasury	Request for information
23 March 2023	Letter from Treasury to RCol	This letter confirms documents that will be sent and timeframes
5 April 2023	Letter from RCol to Treasury	Response from RCol about timeframes for requested documents
6 April 2023	Letter from Treasury to RCol	Response to initial information request, with submissions
10 April 2023	E-mail from RCol to Treasury	Confirmation of receipt of submissions
20 April 2023	Letter from Treasury to RCol	Response to initial information request with additional submissions
20 April 2023	E-mail from RCol to Treasury	Confirmation of receipt of letter and query about dates for provision of additional submissions
21 April 2023	E-mail from Treasury to RCol	Response to query about dates for provision of additional submissions

If you would like to request copies of these documents, please let us know.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely



John Beaglehole  
**Director, COVID 19 Royal Commission**