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Erika Whittome

By email: fyi-request-26210-145380bc@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H2024038269

Tēnā koe Erika

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 24 March 2024 for information regarding publishing responses under the Act. Each part of your request is addressed in turn:

*What is the criteria is for publishing OIA responses on the ministry's website?
What is the criteria for this publishing OIA on the ministry's website in relation to requests around Covid 19, vaccination and health outcomes as a result of vaccination?*

Openness and transparency are critical drivers of public trust and confidence in government and promote active participation and engagement from the public.

Responses to OIA requests are made available by Manatū Hauora with the principle of availability in mind: *“that the information shall be made available unless there is good reason for withholding it”*.

As part of the assessment process when publishing information, the following matters are generally considered against the principle of availability:

- public interest in release
- suitability for publication
- privacy interests
- contractual obligations
- risk of copyright/defamation
- addition of contextual information.

Manatū Hauora regularly assesses the suitability of its OIA responses for publication and ensured they are frequently made publicly available here: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Please supply any minutes, emails, memos etc around the making of this criteria and decisions to publish or not to publish a response to an OIA on <https://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests>.”

In May 2022, Manatū Hauora adopted a Proactive Release Policy and Guidance that builds on the commitment to proactive release and provides a framework to ongoing work to enhance the publication of information. This policy confirms the Ministry's commitment to the proactive release of information and outlines its requirements and procedures. A copy of the guidance document is publicly available [here](#).

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.

Nāku noa, nā



Jan Torres

Manager, OIA Services

Government and Executive Services | Te Pou Whakatere Kāwanatanga