



21 January 2022

ASE

fyi-request-17826-58178fa0@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: OIA-2021/22-0714

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request relating to vaccines and human rights considerations

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 3 December 2021. You requested:

“Is The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet aware of any long-term efficacy data for any COVID-19 inoculations? If so, what is that data?

what consideration within The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has been given to the status of COVID-19 inoculations as “experimental” medical treatments? What scientific and medical basis does The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet have for asserting that COVID-19 inoculations are not “experimental” medical treatments? If this has not been considered within The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, then why has this not been considered?

What contingency plans have been considered within The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, if COVID-19 inoculations may prove to be unsafe, ineffective, unnecessary, and/or otherwise harmful to personal health and/or public health (as “public health” is generally understood)? If this has not been considered within The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, then why has this not been considered?

In consideration of positions, polices, and/or legislation (including, but not limited to messaging and medical advice, collective punishments, and segregation) which may appear as intent to use force, fraud, deceit, duress, over-reaching, or other ulterior forms of constraint or coercion to encourage, incentivize, or otherwise promote COVID-19 inoculations, what consideration within The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has been given to the effects of such positions, polices, and/or legislation respecting healthcare providers' legal and ethical obligations to empower their patients to exercise their rights of informed consent (including rights of informed refusal)? How do such positions, polices, and/or legislation respect patients' rights regarding informed consent (including rights of informed refusal)? If this has not been considered within The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, then why has this not been considered?

In consideration of positions, polices, and/or legislation (including, but not limited to messaging and medical advice, collective punishments, and segregation) which may appear as intent to use force, fraud, deceit, duress, over-reaching, or other ulterior forms of constraint or coercion to encourage, incentivize, or otherwise promote COVID-19 inoculations, what consideration within The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has been given to the effects of such positions, polices, and/or legislation respecting individual human rights (including human rights as recognised under national and international frameworks), such as individual human rights to privacy and confidentiality of medical information; and individual human rights to refuse medical treatment, with or without reason? If this has not been considered within The Department of the Prime

Minister and Cabinet, then why has this not been considered?

In consideration of the questions raised above, and related matters, what consideration within The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has been given to the possibility that positions, policies, and/or legislation (including, but not limited to messaging and medical advice, collective punishments, and segregation) which may appear as intent to use force, fraud, deceit, duress, over-reaching, or other ulterior forms of constraint or coercion to encourage, incentivize, or otherwise promote COVID-19 inoculations, may expose proponents, advocates, and/or actors on behalf of such positions, policies, and/or legislation to culpability for human rights violations, crimes against humanity, and/or war crimes? If this has not been considered within The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, then why has this not been considered?"

I have decided under section 15A of the Act to extend the time limits for deciding on your request by an additional 20 working days. Consequently, the extended due date for your response will be 21 February 2022.

The extension is required because of the consultations needed to make a decision on your request. Despite the extension, a response will be sent to you as soon as possible.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Corbett
Manager, Ministerial and Business Services