



10 December 2021

[Redacted]

Ref: OIA-2021/22-0442

Dear [Redacted]

Official Information Act request relating to COVID-19 vaccine certificates

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 18 October 2021, in a partial transfer of your request from the Ministry of Health. The parts of your request transferred to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for response were:

- 8) What public consultation process was done to pass the covid19 vaccine passport*
- 10) Who made the decision to implement a NZ covid19 vaccine passport*
- 12) When is the proposed end date of the proposed covid19 vaccine passport."*

I believe you are referring to the announcement of the COVID-19 Vaccine Certificates for domestic use, please let us know if this interpretation is incorrect at information@dpmc.govt.nz

COVID-19 Vaccination Certificates (CVCs) are a key tool to support the broader public health response to COVID-19. Ensuring that people entering some domestic settings are fully vaccinated enables us to leverage New Zealand's high vaccination rates, safely enjoying greater freedoms and increased economic activity. CVCs ensure people can demonstrate that they are either fully vaccinated or exempt from the requirements (either due to medical circumstances or age).

Public consultation relating to the COVID-19 Protection Framework, including CVCs, was undertaken by a number of government agencies from 27 September 2021 to 2 November 2021, with groups representing:

- retail,
- business,
- supermarket chains,
- hospitality and restaurants,
- iwi,
- Māori tourism,
- unions,
- pacific peoples,
- the events sector.
- peak body groups representing the education sector,
- the health sector,
- communities representing people with disabilities,
- faith based organisations and communities,
- ethnic communities, and

In relation to question 10, on 5 October 2021, the Prime Minister announced that Cabinet had agreed to the use of CVCs. This decision has been enabled by supporting legislation that was enacted by Parliament, you can read the relevant legislation here: www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2021/0051/latest/LMS603365.html

Please note the legislation and use of CVCs does not have a built-in end date.

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

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Cheryl Barnes
**Deputy Chief Executive,
COVID-19 Group**