



27 September 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ref: OIA-2024/25-0229

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request relating to Covid-19 vaccination study

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 9 September 2024. You requested:

*"1. I refer to the paper *The impact of Covid-19 vaccination in Aotearoa New Zealand: A modelling study, including the Declaration of competing interest and Acknowledgements* copied below.*

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264410X24001282>

Please provide the monetary amounts paid by the Ministry of Health, the NZ Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment to the authors of this paper. What date were these payments made?

2. Please provide all memos, reports, documents, Minutes of meetings, emails and messages including Whatsapp and Signal communication by members of the Covid-19 Modelling Steering Committee to any of the authors of the paper and amongst the committee members themselves in regard to this study.

3. Please provide a copy of any feedback, including any email correspondence and Whatsapp and Signal messages, from Shaun Hendry and Michael Baker in respect of this study.

4. Please advise whether Medsafe was involved in this study. Please provide any reports, documents, Minutes of Meetings and emails including Whatsapp and Signal communications where this paper is discussed by Medsafe and the Ministry of Health including communications with any of the authors.

4.[5] Were payments made to Orion Health or any employees of Orion Health in respect of this study? If so, please provide the amounts and the date these payments were made.

In your request paragraphs 4 and 5 were both numbered 4. For ease, I have amended it so that the latter paragraph is numbered [5].

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) partially transferred part 1 of your request to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Management (MBIE) for relevant information they hold. We also retained this question for information held by DPMC that is within scope.

As the matters raised in your request relate to matters falling within the Ministry of Health's portfolio responsibilities, I would ordinarily seek to transfer to them, however, as you sent this request to the Ministry of Health (MOH), a transfer is not needed. I refer you to the MOH response, reference H2024051154.

Regarding part 1, DPMC has reviewed our records and did not identify any payments by DPMC to the authors of the paper, Samik Datta, Giorgia Vattiato, Oliver J. Maclaren, Ning Hua, Andrew Sporle and Michael J Plank. I can confirm no money has been paid by DPMC to these parties.

Regarding parts 2 to 5, DPMC has not identified any information within scope of your request. These parts of your request are therefore refused under section 18(e) – information requested does not exist or cannot be found.

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 DPMC'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



Clare Ward
Executive Director
Strategy, Governance and Engagement