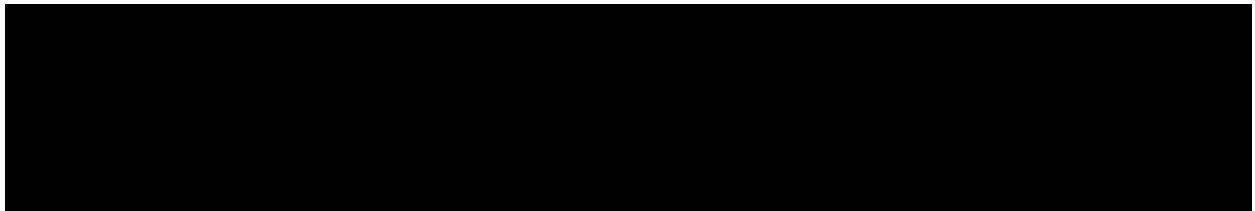


25 July 2025



Official information request for advice on the implementation of vaccination policy

Our Ref: OIA353/1

1. We refer to your official information request dated 30 June 2025 for “all of the Government advice given by Crown Law, to all Government agencies regarding the implementation of vaccination policy from 1st October 2021 until 31st March 2022”.
2. We have interpreted your request as advice relating to COVID-19 vaccination policy during that timeframe.
3. We have identified 97 instances of advice provided by Crown Law to Government agencies from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022 regarding the development and implementation of COVID-19 vaccination policy. This includes formal letters of advice, email advice, and Crown Law comments on draft briefings, Cabinet papers and other documents.
4. We have reviewed all the documents identified. They are all privileged as they contain legal advice. We have therefore decided to withhold these documents under section 9(2)(h) of the Official Information Act 1982 in order to maintain legal professional privilege. We are satisfied that the public interest in maintaining legal privilege is not outweighed by any other considerations, in the public interest, to make this information available.

Proactive release

5. Please note that we may publish this response (with your personal details redacted), and any related documents, on Crown Law’s website if we decide proactive release of this information is or may be in the public interest. If you have any concerns about this, please let us know within 10 working days of the date of this letter.

Right to complain to the Ombudsman

6. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

7. If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact OIA@crownlaw.govt.nz.

Yours faithfully

Crown Law