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Subject: Your request for information, ref: H202200054
Date: Wednesday, 30 March 2022 at 4:17:26 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: OIA Requests
To: Wendy McGuinness
Attachments: image002.jpg, H202200054 - Transfer letter.pdf

mso to MRIR
Q1+Q2

Kia ora Wendy,

Please find attached a letter regarding your request for information.

Ngā mihi

OIA Services
Government Services
Office of the Director-General
Ministry of Health
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30 March 2022

Wendy McGuinness

By email: wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org
Ref: H202200054

Tēnā koe Wendy

Partial transfer of request for information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 22 December 2021 for information regarding New Zealand's health care system. A full copy of [your request](#) is available at the end of this letter.

"Question 1: Cost recovery for MIQ We want to understand the extent to which the cost of a seven day stay for an individual at MIQ (\$1610) was being met by travellers or by the Government. In addition, can you clarify the current policy for cost recovery? For example to what extent is the Government aiming for 'almost full recovery' or 'partial recovery'? Could you provide an assessment of your existing financial assessment and any projections you may have? Note: We are aware of your statement that 'all stays in MIQ will be extended to 10 days', found on your website here.

Question 2: Comparison of home stay versus MIQ stay Was the self-isolation pilot for business travellers successful? Can you provide the report assessing the results of the pilot? The fee for the self-isolation pilot was \$1000 for 14 days (based on the link found here). Can you advise how the fee is being treated for accounting purposes – is it being treated as: (i) revenue or (ii) as part of a cost recovery exercise? Can you explain?"

The Ministry does not hold any information relating to these parts of your request; however, I have been advised that this information is more closely connected with the functions of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). For this reason, I have decided to [transfer parts 1 and 2 of your request to MBIE under section 14\(b\)\(ii\) of the Act](#). You can expect a response from MBIE in due course. The Ministry will respond to the remainder of your request in due course.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in communicating a decision on your request.

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 roa, nā



Jan Torres
Acting Manager, OIA Services
Office of the Director-General

Copy of OIA request:

Question 1: Cost recovery for MIQ We want to understand the extent to which the cost of a seven day stay for an individual at MIQ (\$1610) was being met by travellers or by the Government. In addition, can you clarify the current policy for cost recovery? For example to what extent is the Government aiming for 'almost full recovery' or 'partial recovery'? Could you provide an assessment of your existing financial assessment and any projections you may have? Note: We are aware of your statement that 'all stays in MIQ will be extended to 10 days', found on your website here.

Question 2: Comparison of home stay versus MIQ stay Was the self-isolation pilot for business travellers successful? Can you provide the report assessing the results of the pilot? The fee for the self-isolation pilot was \$1000 for 14 days (based on the link found here). Can you advise how the fee is being treated for accounting purposes – is it being treated as: (i) revenue or (ii) as part of a cost recovery exercise? Can you explain?

Question 3: Restrictions to countries Is MOH currently reconsidering its view about restricting entry from high-risk countries (e.g. South Africa)? Note: Our view is that assessments should be on a person-by-person not a country-by-country basis, as people should all be assessed as though they have the virus (to both prevent discrimination and to manage risks). Any additional comments would be very welcome. Questions related directly to COVID-19

Question 4: COVID-19 National Hospital Response Framework What is the latest version of the COVID-19 National Hospital Response Framework? Who is responsible for updating this? What requirements are being placed on hospitals to implement this framework? Note: we have found the framework poorly communicated in DHBs and hospitals.

Question 5: Oxygen hubs for rural areas What facilities are being provided to isolated rural communities in terms of oxygen supply? Has MOH considered establishing oxygen hubs in rural communities under the management of major COVID-19 hospitals?

Question 6: National reserve supply (NRS) We note that you are recording COVID-19 vaccines in other public locations but believe this figure should also be kept on the NRS and updated monthly (alongside the H5N1 pre-pandemic influenza vaccines). Given this, what is the reason for keeping H5N1 vaccines on the NRS, but not COVID-19 vaccines? Questions related to the design of New Zealand's health care system

Question 7: Integrated health care strategy Have you created an integrated health care strategy (ideally on one A3 page)? If yes, please provide a copy of this. If not, is this something MOH thinks would be beneficial and if yes, is this something MOH is working on?

Question 8: Dashboard Have you developed a dashboard to measure the efficiency and effectiveness of the health care system for (i) each hospital, (ii) DHB or (iii) the country as a whole?

Question 9: Benchmarking the health care system Is the MOH collecting data (estimated or projected) on either (i) elective procedures and (ii) outpatient attendances? If yes, please advise who is responsible for collecting this data and how the Institute can access the data. (See for example, two previous graphs that we have created using UK data, being Figures 1 and 2, found at the front of the DHB survey, attached.) If not, are there any plans to collect this data in the future? Please explain who will be responsible for collecting this data and when.

Question 10: HealthPathways Is the MOH ensuring that HealthPathways for patients are the same across all DHBs? See example here. Please explain who is doing this work.

Question 11: Review of key plans We are pleased to note that a review is being planned for the 2013 National Health Emergency Plan National Reserve Supplies Management and Usage

Policies and the 2017 New Zealand Influenza Pandemic Plan. Does this review include the 2015 National Health Emergency Plan (NHEP)? Are you able to share the terms of reference for the review (including the scope, timing and who will undertake the review)? Note: We would like the opportunity to comment. Questions related to the health system reform in July 2022

Question 12: Consultation Is there any opportunity for the public to comment on these proposals, or will they be implemented without any further public engagement? Note: We understand that the UK and others are considering moving to decentralise (rather than centralise) their health care system given their experience of COVID-19 (see wider discussion here and here). The proposed reforms were designed before COVID-19 lessons were identified and understood.

Question 13: Timing of the reform? Has the MOH advised (or are they considering advising) the Minister and others that this is an inappropriate time to implement a reform of this scale? Note: We understand the health reform is planned to take effect from 1 July 2022. This will be the biggest change in the way the health and disability system of Aotearoa New Zealand is organised since District Health Boards were established 1 January 2001. This seems a risky time to implement a new system given it is likely to be the same time that we will see major COVID-19 surges in New Zealand and the level of consultation will have been sorely hampered due to COVID-19.