

Subject: Acknowledgement of your request for official information, ref: (H2025072285)
CRM:0461235

Date: Monday, 8 September 2025 at 10:53:29 AM New Zealand Standard Time

From: OIA Requests

To: McGuinness Institute OIAs

Attachments: image.png

Kia ora

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), received by the Ministry of Health on 5 September 2025. You requested:

- 1. Given that the New Zealand Pandemic Plan A framework for action (Interim update – July 2024 ‘does not address the full range of lessons identified during the COVID-19 pandemic’ (see Box 2 above), can you advise why these lessons were not addressed? Can you also provide a full list of these lessons?*
- 2. Can you advise what the process from interim to final will be? In particular:*
 - a. Will there be an opportunity for the public to engage with this process and provide feedback?*
 - b. Have other departments been consulted when reviewing lessons? If yes, which departments have/will be consulted?*
 - c. How will MOH engage with stakeholders throughout this process?*
- 3. Given that the Royal Commission of Inquiry is due to provide their final report by February 2026, is there an estimate for when the final pandemic plan will be published?*
- 4. Has any consideration been given to renaming the plan to ‘New Zealand Pandemic Strategy’?*

Follow-up on recommendations

Attachment 1 is an excel that contains a consolidated list of recommendations from both the Phase One of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into COVID-19 Lessons Learned – Te Tira Ārai Urutā (Sheet 2, Table 1 of the excel) and the Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) (Sheet 3, Table 2 of the excel). Sheet 1 contains a key, as well as provides links to the documents where the recommendations were sourced from.

We are interested in knowing to what extent particular recommendations have been implemented. Can you please:

- 5. Complete the attached excel, in particular Columns E-H of Sheet 2, and Columns C-F of Sheet 3.*
- 6. Provide the report of progress against the recommendations of Phase One of the Royal Commission (mentioned in Recommendation 39b of the Royal Commission).*
- 7. Advise whether MOH will be producing a report on progress against the Phase One recommendations for tabling in Parliament (mentioned in Recommendation 39c of the Royal Commission).*

National Reserve Supply (NRS)

Note our complaint to the Ombudsman remains outstanding, see the correspondence on our website here. [Note: If you changed your mind and will now publish the content and quantities of NRS items, please let us know as we will cancel the complaint]

- 8. Can you provide a copy of Cabinet Papers, review report/s, or discussion papers that discuss the content and the process for selecting the content of the National Reserve Supply (NRS) since January 2020?*

The reference number for your request is H2025072285. As required under the Act, the Ministry will endeavour to respond to your request no later than 20 working days after the day your request was received: <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/>

If you have any queries related to this request, please do not hesitate to get in touch (oiagr@health.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi