

13 May 2026

Wendy McGuinness
Chief Executive
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka
Via email: [REDACTED]
cc: Arne Larsen [REDACTED]
Greta Balfour [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe Wendy

Request for information: Procurement process of personal protective equipment for the National Reserve Supply (NRS)

Thank you for your request dated 15 April 2026 under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). Your original request is attached at the end of this letter.

For clarity, we have addressed your queries below:

1. Has this procurement process (see letter dated 23 May 2024) resulted in an increase in the quantity of the NRS PPE?

Response: Purchasing of medical devices including personal protective equipment (PPE) is led by Health New Zealand (HNZ). Pharmac is not aware of any bulk purchasing of PPE having been completed by Health NZ since the implementation of the contracts on 1 April 2026.

2. Has this procurement process resulted in any new contracts with *New Zealand suppliers* to manufacture PPE for supply to the NRS? If yes, please advise the *duration* of these contracts and the *types* of PPE being supplied to the NRS.

3. Has this procurement process resulted in any new contracts with *overseas suppliers* to manufacture PPE for supply to the NRS? If yes, please advise *what countries*, *what durations* and *what types* of PPE?

Response to question 2 and 3:

Through this process, contracts were established with 11 suppliers. These suppliers are:

- Global Medics Limited
- Gravity Trading Limited
- Jackson Allison Medical & Surgical Limited
- Mediscope International Limited
- Mun (New Zealand) Limited
- Paragon Care Group New Zealand Limited
- Reynard Health Supplies Ltd
- SPQ Limited
- Tamaki Group Limited
- Universal Specialities Limited

- Westlab (NZ) Limited Partnership

All suppliers are registered New Zealand limited companies. Country of residence was identified as New Zealand by six suppliers, Australia by four suppliers and the United Kingdom by one supplier.

The contracts have an initial term of two years, with right of renewals allowing up to two additional one-year extensions, resulting in a maximum potential term of four years. The personal protective equipment supplied to the NRS under these contracts includes isolation gowns, aprons, and procedure masks.

4. Has Pharmac undertaken or plan to undertake further round/s of invitations for ROIs for the procurement of PPE for the NRS? If yes, please explain in detail and provide correspondence.

Response: Pharmac has not. The PPE category is transitioning to Health NZ in the next couple of months. Any new PPE procurement or contracting activity will be managed by Health NZ.

5. Do you rely on the *National Health Emergency Plan: National Reserve Supplies Management and Usage Policies, 3rd edition (2013)* (directly or indirectly) when undertaking a procurement process?

6. Please provide links to any other documents or guidance Pharmac relies on when undertaking procurement processes for stocking the NRS?


Response to questions 5 and 6:

Pharmac did not directly rely on the *National Health Emergency Plan: National Reserve Supplies Management and Usage Policies, 3rd edition (2013)*. However, throughout the process, we engaged with HNZ subject-matter experts. They made significant contributions to the requirements and the evaluation of the PPE, which may have been informed by the National Health Emergency Plan.

We trust that this information answers your queries. Please note, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman about our response to your OIA, under section 28(3) of the OIA. Details of [how to make a complaint](#) are on the Ombudsman's website.

To make information more freely available, we publish selected OIA responses (excluding personal details) on our website. Please get in touch with us if you have any questions about this.

Nāku noa, nā


Director
Equity and Engagement

Original request

From: McGuinness Institute OIAs <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2026 5:50 PM
To: Web Enquiry <enquiry@Pharmac.govt.nz>
Cc: Arne Larsen <[REDACTED]>; Greta Balfour <[REDACTED]>
Subject: R-0920: OIA 2026/05 – Request for information on the procurement process of Personal Protective Equipment for the NRS

OIA 2026/05 – Request for information on the procurement process of Personal Protective Equipment for the NRS

We have the following questions regarding responses to the letter (dated 23 May 2024, attached and found on your website [here](#)). These questions are in light of the national reserve supply (NRS) undergoing a comprehensive review in 2023 led by the Ministry of Health (see MOH website [here](#)). Note: We acknowledge that some or all of this information may be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982. However, we would appreciate the provision of high-level information where possible. For example, if it is not possible to provide specific details about the type of PPE supplied, could you please indicate the relevant high-level PPE category, such as: (a) non-sterile gloves; (b) gowns and aprons; (c) disinfectant wipes and tablets; (d) masks; (e) eyewear; (f) headwear; or (g) other coverings.

1. Has this procurement process (see letter dated 23 May 2024) resulted in an increase in the quantity of the NRS PPE?
2. Has this procurement process resulted in any new contracts with *New Zealand suppliers* to manufacture PPE for supply to the NRS? If yes, please advise the *duration* of these contracts and the *types* of PPE being supplied to the NRS.
3. Has this procurement process resulted in any new contracts with *overseas suppliers* to manufacture PPE for supply to the NRS? If yes, please advise *what countries, what durations* and *what types* of PPE?
4. Has Pharmac undertaken or plan to undertake further round/s of invitations for ROIs for the procurement of PPE for the NRS? If yes, please explain in detail and provide correspondence.
5. Do you rely on the *National Health Emergency Plan: National Reserve Supplies Management and Usage Policies, 3rd edition (2013)* (directly or indirectly) when undertaking a procurement process?
6. Please provide links to any other documents or guidance Pharmac relies on when undertaking procurement processes for stocking the NRS?

Please let Arne know if any further clarification is required.

Many thanks,

Wendy McGuinness and Arne Larsen