

26 October 2022

Ref: OIA-2022/23-0221

Dear

Official Information Act request for a copy of the All-of-Government Operational Preparedness Plan

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 10 October 2022.

You have requested:

"I would like to make a request for a copy of the DPMC "all of government operational preparedness plan" for COVID-19 Variants of Concern.

The plan I am referring to was referenced as being under development in a 20 May briefing to Minister Ayesha Verrall, accessible here:

[...]

"Across government we need to provide assurance that we can respond to future variants of concern... This work will be led by DPMC who will put together an all of government operational preparedness plan." (Quote on pages 83-84)

I would like to request a copy of this plan."

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) has interpreted your request to refer to the final copy of the All-of-Government Operational Preparedness Plan (OPP).

I can advise that the OPP referred to in the 20 May 2022 briefing was superseded by the National Management Plan Q3 2022 on which work commenced on 10 June 2022 and was distributed to officials on 30 September 2022.

Accordingly, your request for a copy of this plan is refused under section 18(e) as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

However, I can advise that DPMC is currently preparing the National Management Plan Q3 2022 document for proactive release. I anticipate it will be published on the DPMC website by early December.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response may be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet'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

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COVID-19 Group

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