



22 February 2023

[REDACTED]

Ref: OIA-2022/23-0570

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request for communications with Twitter and documents relating to the censorship of medical information about COVID-19

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 11 February 2023.

You have requested:

“Dear Prime Minister, Minister of Health, Broadcasting and Digital Communications and your Ministries.

Please find attached a link from a US congresswoman and admissions from Twitter that they censored medical information at the request of the US government. Please provide under the OIA:

1) copies of any communications or other information between yourselves, your advisors, any representative of your ministries or the wider New Zealand government and Twitter since 1 January 2019

2) please provide any communications between the New Zealand government and Twitter or any other mainstream or social media platform attempting to censor or restrict publication in any way of any medical or other information about Covid, the Covid vaccine alternative solutions to enhance immunity apart from vaccination, data about the safety and efficacy of the PfizerVax and/ or safety signals treatment injuries, deaths or other harm from the Covid response and/ or the PfizerVax.

If any information was by telephone, please include information about the time, parties to and content of any relevant calls.

3) please also provide any internal government advice, policies, guidelines, discussion papers, emails or other information about how to censor mainstream media and/ or social media, consideration of possible levers for achieving this, what should be censored and the reasons for this censorship.

I am particularly interested in censorship of information about the Covid response and information contrary to the government narrative/ indoctrination about the safety and/ or efficacy of the PfizerVax. I am also interested to know what other topics have been censored by government on social media or MSM in the last 10 years

<https://makismd.substack.com/p/us-congresswoman-nancy-mace-discloses>"

I note that you have also sent your request to the Prime Minister's Office, Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall, the Ministry of Health, Hon Ginny Andersen, Hon Willie Jackson, and the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA).

Please be advised that the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) will only be responding to your request to the extent the information requested is held by or more closely connected to the functions of DPMC. I further note that your request is specific to the censorship of medical information about COVID-19.

Parts One and Two

I can advise that there has not been any communications between DPMC and Twitter since 1 January 2019 that attempts to "*cancel or restrict publication in any way of any medical or other information about Covid, the Covid vaccine alternative solutions to enhance immunity apart from vaccination, data about the safety and efficacy of the PfizerVax and/ or safety signals treatment injuries, deaths or other harm from the Covid response and/ or the PfizerVax*".

Accordingly, Parts One and Two of your request is refused in full under section 18(e), as the documents alleged to contain the requested information does not exist.

Part Three

I further advise that there has not been any internal advice, policies, papers, and emails about "*how to cancel mainstream media and/ or social media, consideration of possible levers for achieving this, what should be censored and the reasons for this censorship*" in the context of the censorship of medical information about COVID-19, to and from DPMC.

As such, Part Three of your request is refused in full under section 18(e), as the documents alleged to contain the requested information does not exist.

I note that you are also interested in the censorship of other topics in New Zealand.

I can advise that DPMC is not the responsible agency for issues of online content moderation in New Zealand. If you would like to know more about content moderation, or issues of online harms in New Zealand in future, you may wish to get in touch with the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) by emailing them at: OIA@dia.govt.nz.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. You have the right to ask the Office of the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the OIA. This response may be published on the DPMC 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



Tony Lynch
**Deputy Chief Executive
National Security Group**