



2 May 2023



Ref: OIA-2022/23-0757

Dear ■

**Official Information Act request for correspondence/documents related to the use of a domestic vaccine passes**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 2 April 2023. You requested:

*"This OIA response: [www.dPMC.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2022-03/dPMC-roia-oia-2021-22-0346-vaccine-documentation-for-domestic-use.PDF](http://www.dPMC.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2022-03/dPMC-roia-oia-2021-22-0346-vaccine-documentation-for-domestic-use.PDF)*

*Notes that:*

*"On 5 July 2021, Cabinet agreed the Minister for COVID-19 Response would report back on progress towards development and operationalisation of vaccine certificates; And on 27 September 2021, Cabinet first considered the use of CVCs as part of the decision to develop a new strategy for a highly vaccinated New Zealand;"*

*Reading the response it implies officials were looking into the usage of domestic passports since July (and not solely a travel passport) from the referenced 5<sup>th</sup> of July Cabinet meeting.*

*But I can't find any Cabinet paper or minute or other document that has been proactively released that refers to domestic vaccine certificates from the 5<sup>th</sup> of July.*

*I'd like to provided with:*

*- The document on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2021 that is referenced where it's noted the Minister will report back on the use of vaccine certificates – I'm particularly interested if this was simply a report back on progress (that the Ministry of Health appeared to be leading on the use of a travel certificate) or if It explicitly included the use o" exploring domestic vaccine certificates.*

*- Any communications or documents between July 2021 and the resultant 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2021 Cabinet paper on the use of domestic vaccine certificates and developing advice or policy or engagement or consultation on them that DPMC was involved with."*

In regard for your request for the Cabinet Paper dated 5 July 2021 referenced in the link provided in your request, the paper can be accessed from the following link:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/Proactive-Releases/Border/2021-09-08-Proactive-release/Reconnecting-New-Zealanders-with-the-World.pdf>

I have interpreted your request to be for information between the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Prime Minister and/or the Minister for the COVID-19 Response on the creation of domestic COVID-19 Vaccine Certificates.

I can advise that for the period 1 July 2021 – 27 September 2021, two joint briefings by the Ministry of Health and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet were produced relating to the creation of domestic COVID-19 Vaccine Certificates, both of which are provided below:

- Joint Briefing: Initial Advice on the Domestic use of COVID-19 Vaccination Certificates - <https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/Proactive-Releases/Alert-levels-and-restrictions/10-Dec-2021/Vaccine-Certificates-and-CPF/Initial-advice-on-the-domestic-use-of-COVID-19-Vaccination-certificates.pdf>
- Joint Briefing: The Domestic use of COVID-19 Vaccination Certificates in High-Risk Settings - <https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/Proactive-Releases/Alert-levels-and-restrictions/10-Dec-2021/Vaccine-Certificates-and-CPF/The-domestic-use-of-COVID-19-Certificates-in-high-risk-settings.pdf>

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

Yours sincerely



Chris Gianos  
**Head of Operations and Risk**