



11 May 2026

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0658

Tēnā koe

**Official Information Act request for financial information relating to procurement of COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment in 2020**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request of 23 April 2026. Your request was transferred by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) on 15 April 2026 to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), Manatū Hauora Ministry of Health (MOH) and Te Whatu Ora, Health New Zealand (HNZ). You requested:

*"... Given your response, can you focus on invoices and payments for the plane loads delivered by those named or their associates in April/May 2020.*

*These files/records can't simply have vanished... especially when such large sums of tax payers monies are involved. So please try the accounts department."*

Your original request of 9 March 2026 to DIA, referenced in the current request that has been transferred to DPMC, is copied below:

*"... I refer to my earlier Official Information Act request concerning communications involving Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern and Hon Grant Robertson for the period 1 February 2020 to 31 March 2020, and the Department of Internal Affairs' response indicating that no documents were located within that timeframe.*

*For clarity, the original request sought: Emails sent and received by Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern and Hon Grant Robertson relating to communications with wealthy individuals including Stephen Tindall, Sam Morgan, Rob Fyfe, Graeme Hart, Niki Mowbray, Mat Mowbray, and Anna Mowbray.*

*In light of the response received, I wish to expand the scope of my request.*

*Please extend the search period to cover 1 March 2020 through 31 July 2020. Within this expanded timeframe, I request the following documents:*

- 1. All emails and other communications between the above-named Ministers and the named business individuals.*
- 2. All emails and communications relating to Rob Fyfe becoming embedded within the COVID-19 Command Centre, including communications involving Mike Bush.*
- 3. All emails, communications, orders, invoices, contracts, procurement documentation, and related records concerning plane loads of PPE facilitated by Stephen Tindall, the Mowbrays, and any associated parties.*

4. *The modelling work commissioned by Graeme Hart referred to in Rob Fyfe's email dated 22 March 2020 at 8:49 pm, including any reports, briefings, correspondence, attachments, or related analytical material.*
5. *All documents relating to the quality, fitness-for-purpose, compliance assessment, recall, disposal, write-off, or destruction of PPE procured, supplied, donated, or facilitated by the above-named individuals or their associated entities, including but not limited to:*
  - a. *Quality assurance reports*
  - b. *Product testing results (including certification verification, standards compliance assessments, or laboratory testing)*
  - c. *Internal or external risk assessments*
  - d. *Briefings to Ministers or senior officials*
  - e. *Communications with suppliers regarding defects or non-compliance*
  - f. *Procurement review documents*
  - g. *Stock reconciliation, wastage, write-off, or disposal records*
  - h. *Communications with MBIE, the Ministry of Health, the COVID-19 Supply Chain Command Centre, or any other relevant agency regarding substandard or unusable PPE*

*This request includes drafts, attachments, aide-memoires, internal communications, and any material in which quality concerns, standards compliance issues, or destruction or disposal of PPE stock were discussed...*

Accordingly, we have understood your request, as transferred to DPMC, to be for:

*"...invoices and payments for the plane loads [of COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)] delivered [or facilitated] by those named [Stephen Tindall, the Mowbrays] or their associates in April/May 2020."*

To respond to your request, we have undertaken searches of records held in our financial management systems. Specifically, we have run the following searches:

- Transaction report for everything posted between 1 April and 31 May 2020.
- Accounts payable balance inquiry run, which allows for filtering by vendor.
- Transaction report by vendor for the financial year 2019/20, which enables comments to be captured as well as the vendor, in case relevant information had been recorded in the comments.

The vendors and keywords we were searching for were:

- Tindall
- Mowbray
- Zuru
- "Personal Protective Equipment"
- "PPE"

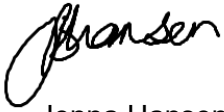
In addition, we also looked for anything within the timeframe referencing "personal" or "protective".

I can confirm that no financial records, including invoices or payments, were identified in scope of your request. Noting that your request was also transferred to MOH and HNZ, we have no grounds to believe that the requested information is held by, or more closely connected to, any additional entities that are subject to the Act. Accordingly, your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act.

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

This response will 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.

Nāku noa, nā



Jenna Hansen  
**Manager, Accountability and Ministerial Services**

Proactively Released