



1 July 2026

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0804

Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

Official Information Act request relating to modelling to support a future COVID-19 strategy for Aotearoa New Zealand document

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) accepted a transfer of part four of your request from the University of Auckland (UoA) on 9 June 2026. Part four requested:

“4. Please provide the document, if not this one, that was used to inform the Cabinet paper “COVID-19: A Strategy for a Highly Vaccinated New Zealand” (late 2021).”

Following consultation with UoA, DPMC have interpreted “this one” in this context to mean the 2021 report entitled “Modelling to support a future COVID-19 strategy for Aotearoa New Zealand”. I understand from UoA that this document is publicly available here:

<https://www.covid19modelling.ac.nz/modelling-to-support-a-future-covid-19-strategy/>.

Background to the Cabinet paper

The Cabinet paper, *COVID-19: A Strategy for a Highly Vaccinated New Zealand* (CAB-21-MIN-0393), was considered by Cabinet on 27 September 2021. The paper and the Minute have been proactively released, here: <https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2023-01/COVID-19-A-Strategy-for-a-Highly-Vaccinated-New-Zealand.pdfV2.pdf>

Modelling used to inform the Cabinet paper is publicly available

The Cabinet paper, at paragraph 32, notes that modelling from Te Pūnaha Matatini (TPM) and the Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR) was considered in developing the strategy. Relevant international evidence and examples were also considered.

The TPM modelling is the paper titled *A COVID-19 Vaccination Model for Aotearoa New Zealand* from 30 June 2021. This document is publicly available here: <https://cpb-ap-se2.wpmucdn.com/blogs.auckland.ac.nz/dist/d/75/files/2017/01/a-covid-19-vaccination-model-for-aotearoa.pdf>.

The ESR COVID-19 Vaccination Modelling dashboard is publicly available here: https://esr-cri.shinyapps.io/SARSCOV2_Vaccine/. The dashboard presents COVID-19 vaccine strategies for New Zealand based on the models created for the paper that is publicly available here: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanwpc/article/PIIS2666-6065\(21\)00165-6/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanwpc/article/PIIS2666-6065(21)00165-6/fulltext).

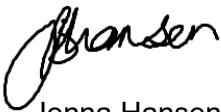
The international examples considered were the Public Health England vaccine surveillances reports. These reports are publicly available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccine-surveillance-report>.

No other formal briefings or reports have been identified within scope of this part of your request. Part four of your request is therefore refused under section 18(d) of the Act as the information is publicly available.

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