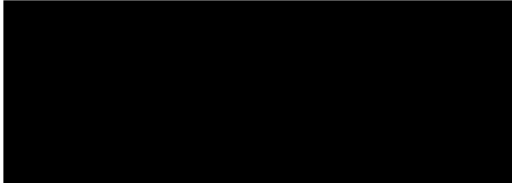


Northern Region Health  
Coordination Centre  
Level 9  
Bledisloe House  
24 Wellesley Street West,  
Auckland CBD, Auckland 1010

07 December 2021



**Re: Official Information Act request – DHB Provision of COVID case detail**

I refer to your Official Information Act request of 8 November 2021 seeking the following information:

**Under the Official Information Act, RNZ requests information relating to the provision of Covid case numbers and daily updates to district representatives, including and not limited to elected members, stakeholders and third parties.**

For clarity, RNZ seeks information on:

- Who is given information on the daily Covid cases in each DHB region in advance of any Ministry of Health or government statement, or briefing?
- Which stakeholders and/or partner organisations are given information?
- The nature of the information; what information about the Covid cases are people given?

I am responding on behalf of the Northern Region Health Coordination Centre (NRHCC), the COVID-19 response and vaccination team set up by the Northland, Waitematā, Auckland, and Counties Manukau DHBs.

- 1) Who is given information on the daily Covid cases in each DHB region in advance of any Ministry of Health or government statement, or briefing?**

Information on daily case numbers in the Northern Region are included at the morning NRHCC Incident Management Team (IMT) briefing. Attendance at this briefing is limited to NRHCC Function Leads, Northern Region DHB Incident Controllers and Chief Executives, and a senior representative from Whakarongorau as the national telehealth provider commissioned by the Ministry of Health.

The morning IMT briefing directly precedes a daily Ministry of Health IMT briefing. As such, the only people who are given information on the daily COVID-19 cases in advance of subsequent MoH (or government) statements or briefings are those who attend this morning IMT briefing.

**2) Which stakeholders and/or partner organisations are given information?**

Te Whakarongorau.

**3) The nature of the information; what information about the Covid cases are people given?**

Generally the information provided is limited to total number of new cases in the previous 24 hours, and a broad ethnicity breakdown.

On occasion, when linked to a high-risk setting, additional information such as the following data descriptors may be included:

- Gender
- Age
- Vaccination status
- Ethnicity
- Infectious Period
- Occupation

**Note 1.** Infectious period includes time spent in a setting while infectious

**Note 2.** Infectious Period and Occupation are only discussed if relevant to a high risk setting such as a school, hospital or an aged care facility.

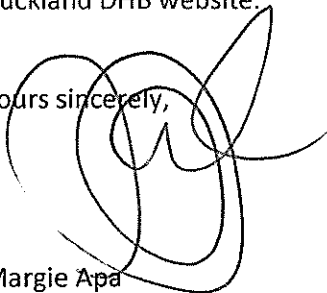
**Note 3.** Any information that is given about a specific case is non-identifying – any required identifying details are dealt with offline with only the few key people who require further detail.

**Note 4.** Privacy/Confidentiality – all those who are privy to information provided at IMT meetings are also governed by a confidentiality clause as part of their employment contract.

You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours sincerely,



Margie Apa  
Chief Executive - Counties Manukau District Health Board