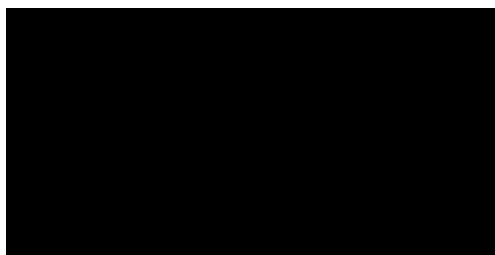


28 October 2020



Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your follow up request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 5 October 2020 for:

“As a supplementary question, could you please respond with details of activities to date, to give me a better understanding of why this is taking so long.”

The contact tracing card ‘trial’ is made up of a number of streams of work, all of which have to come together to ensure that the right level of due diligence is completed before making significant investment decisions. Trial planning and preparation has been underway since early August 2020, when the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) took on responsibility for the programme of work.

As you are aware, an “on-the-ground” aspect of a contact tracing card trial will take place in Rotorua. This is the final “live” assessment of the contact tracing card trial and is the culmination of weeks and months of technical assessment, testing, engagement, and planning. This has included co-design of the trial study protocols and associated ethics approvals, privacy risk assessment, technical trials and selection and engagement of a suitable community who are willing to participate.

In addition, engagement is taking place with the many stakeholders who will either be involved or have a keen interest in the trial process. The final analysis and reporting will conclude the trial process. The Ministry anticipates providing advice to Ministers before the end of the year, to enable a decision to be made on any ongoing use of a contact tracing card.

I trust this information fulfils your request.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'G' followed by a series of loops and a trailing line.

Gaynor Bradfield
**Manager, Office of the Deputy Director-General
Data and Digital**