

14 February 2022

s 9(2)(a)

By email: s 9(2)(a)  
Ref: H202200045

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

### Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 10 January 2022 for information relating to Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs). You stated:

*This is an OIA relating to the reporting on news.com.au that many Australian states and territories are either already allowing people to self report positive RAT tests, or intend on introducing the technology this week.*

You specifically requested:

*Is NZ working on this? If so, when was this technology ordered or procured? Who is building it, and how much is it budgeted to cost?*

*If the decision has not been made, why not?*

A development partner, Alphero was engaged to develop a RAT recording system in December 2021. The budgeted cost of this technology is withheld under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act, where its release would likely unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information. I have considered the countervailing public interest in release in making this decision and consider that it does not outweigh the need to withhold at this time.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



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