

15 December 2020

██████████  
By email: ██████████  
Ref: H202008732

Dear ██████████

### **Response to your request for official information**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 3 December 2020 for:

- “1. please provide any statutes laws or acts that prohibit govt from implementing mandates, laws, statutes or acts whereby govt could potentially cause medical or risk related harm*
- 2. please provide evidential studies conducted on the effects of wearing a face mask for continuous periods of time including lack of oxygen to the brain I body and risk of contracting bacterial pneumonia*
- 3. please provide evidence that the covid virus had been isolated*
- 4. please provide medical studies you have to determine unequivocally that viruses can be transmitted by saliva or mucus*
- 5. please provide evidence of what constitutes a pandemic*
- 6. please provide evidence that nz has been subject to a pandemic*
- 7. please provide any medical evidence to prove masks are effective in preventing virus transfer*
- 8. please provide the neccesary requirements that prove enough evidential harm for govt to create criminal convictions for not wearing a mask*
- 9. please provide any medical evidence to prove unequivocally that masks are effective in preventing disease transfer”.*”

The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) recommends you seek our own legal advice regarding medical or risk related harm.

The Ministry has responded to several requests for information regarding COVID-19, including information around face masks and isolation of the virus. You can find these responses at the following address: <https://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests>.

Some specific responses you might find useful are listed below:

- [https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202007576\\_18\\_nov\\_2020.pdf](https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202007576_18_nov_2020.pdf)

- [https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202008098\\_29\\_nov\\_2020.pdf](https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202008098_29_nov_2020.pdf).
- [https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202008092\\_2\\_dec\\_2020.pdf](https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202008092_2_dec_2020.pdf).
- [https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202006250\\_20\\_oct\\_2020.pdf](https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202006250_20_oct_2020.pdf).
- [https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202006341\\_21\\_september\\_2020.pdf](https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202006341_21_september_2020.pdf).

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. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nick Allan', written in a cursive style.

Nick Allan  
**Manager, OIA Services**  
**Office of the Director-General**