

1 February 2022

s 9(2)(a)

By email: s 9(2)(a)
Ref: H202117900

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 16 December 2021 for information related to My Vaccine Pass. You requested specifically:

“As a fully willing and vaccinated citizen, I feel incredibly uncomfortable about my middle name and date of birth being displayed on my vaccine passport - having to display this in cafes, retail outlets, at work etc. Can you please provide the background to the decision behind making this information publicly displayed when as secondary proof in times of doubt, a driver’s licence or passport could be produced if required.”

My Vaccine Pass is a domestic vaccination certificate that allows you to access places within New Zealand that require proof of your vaccination status. My Vaccine Pass has been considered from the perspective of minimising the information displayed, balanced against the need to ensure the correct person is presenting the certification that they have been vaccinated or have an exemption.

When you present My Vaccine Pass to a business or venue with vaccination certificate requirements, they can ask a person to present a secondary form of ID (such as a driver’s licence, passport, or 18+ card). These forms of ID have a date of birth printed on them, which the business or venue can use to confirm the details match against the details on My Vaccine Pass. Having the date of birth details on My Vaccine Pass gives businesses and venues confidence that the person presenting the pass is the named person as there are many people in New Zealand with the same name.

The NZ Pass Verifier App that will be used to scan the My Vaccine Pass QR code is designed to briefly show the individual’s name and date of birth after scanning the QR code along with pass or fail. This design allows businesses to also check that all the details in the QR code match all the details on the My Vaccine Pass. The Ministry has designed the NZ Pass Verifier app in a way which does not collect personal information and is used by the business or venue only to verify the status of a person.

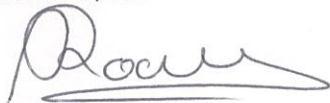
A Privacy Impact Assessment that sets out the design of My Vaccine Pass has been discussed with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner and is publicly available on the Ministry’s website at: www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/pia_my_covid_record_and_vaccination_certificates_final_16_nov_2021_0.pdf.

I trust that the above information explains why My Vaccine Pass and the International Travel Vaccination Certificate has your information displayed.

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 or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry of Health website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases.

Nāku noa, nā



Astrid Koornneef
Director
National Immunisation Programme