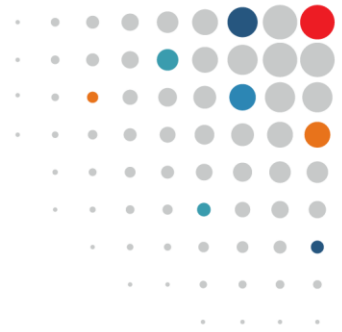




Social Investment Agency
Toi Hau Tāngata



16 December 2024

File Ref: 2024019

9(2)(a)

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 request, received on 20 November 2024. You requested:

I understand your agency undertook research into groups and circumstances of those who were unvaccinated during 2021 and possibly 2022.

Please provide information to show:

- 1) *who commissioned and who funded this research, and who it was provided to.*

In late 2021, the Social Wellbeing Agency undertook research to identify potential barriers to uptake of the COVID-19 vaccination to support the broader government response.

In 2022, the Ministry of Health asked the Social Wellbeing Agency to look at the take up of vaccinations for disabled people, using the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI).

The research was produced from the Social Wellbeing Agency's baseline funding and was circulated to Government agencies.

Two reports were published on our website:

- <https://www.sia.govt.nz/publications/COVID-19-vaccine-uptake-for-disabled-people> and
- <https://www.sia.govt.nz/publications/Analysis-on-the-uptake-of-childhood-vaccinations>

- 2) *it appears that the research assumes there was some benefit from vaccination. Please provide the information to show all such underlying assumptions and any evidence relied on to justify these assumptions,*

The Social Wellbeing Agency produced a data and analytical report on the uptake of vaccinations, not the efficacy or benefits of vaccination. The approach and methodology of the analysis is publicly available in both reports. Please refer to the notes section.

- 3) *please provide any analysis or other information about any human rights, medical or legal risks identified when vaccinating with a product such as "comirnaty" that had only conditional provisional consent from the medicines regulator "Medsafe", and longer term risks due to the*

absence of long term studies on safety and efficacy, how to avoid or manage identified risks such as myocarditis and pericarditis and any assessment of risk/benefit of vaccination for different sectors of the community including those with health immune systems and those at low risk from covid, and also risks for those with fragile immune systems and risk of reduced immunity for other diseases after injections with Comirnaty

The Social Wellbeing Agency produced a data and analytical report on the uptake of vaccinations and is not responsible for any policy or research in relation to your request. Therefore, I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the information you are requesting does not exist.

4) please provide any follow up recommendations or outcomes from your research on this matter and any related correspondence including and recommendations for further research.

The data and analytics report informed wider work across government and the Ministry of Health's further work on vaccinations. The Social Wellbeing Agency did not make any recommendations therefore I am declining your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the information you request does not exist.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have a right to seek an investigation or review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K Anderson'.

Kirsty Anderson
Manager, Office of the Chief Executive