

13 April 2022

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**Re: Official Information Act request – ARPHS Winter Preparedness 23 January – 23 March 2022**

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 14 February 2022 requesting the following information:

**I request copies of any winter illness preparedness reports, briefing documents or modelling for influenza, RSV or whooping cough illness that's held by Auckland Regional Public Health for the upcoming 2022 winter season. This should include any planning, staffing, capacity of situation reports for any of the hospitals around the Auckland region. The period I am requesting this information is from January 23 until March 23, 2022.**

#### Response

I am responding from the Auckland District Health Board (ADHB) as the DHB responsible for Auckland Regional Public Health Service (ARPHS).

ARPHS provides public health services to all three metro Auckland District Health Boards – Waitematā District Health Board, Counties Manukau Health and Auckland District Health Board, and the populations they serve. ARPHS' core role is to protect and promote public health.

ARPHS responds to notifiable infectious diseases reported to its Medical Officer of Health as per the Health Act 1956. These notifiable diseases do include Pertussis (whooping cough) however, we are declining your request under section 18(e) as there are no ARPHS preparedness reports, briefing documents or modelling for these diseases for the upcoming winter season for the period January 23 to March 23, 2022.

Influenza and RSV are not notifiable and we have no ARPHS preparedness reports, briefing documents or modelling for these diseases for the upcoming winter season for the period January 23 to March 23, 2022. Similarly, ARPHS does not produce planning, staffing or capacity of situation reports for hospitals around the Auckland region. Therefore, we are refusing these parts of your request, under section 18(e) Official Information Act – as the ARPHS information you request does not exist.

You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ailsa Claire".

Ailsa Claire, OBE  
**Chief Executive**