

28 July 2022

Jenny Ling
NZME

Email: jenny.ling@nzme.co.nz

Tēnā koe Jenny

Official Information Request- OIA 14411, re Amount Spent on Free Items Given to Entice People to Be Vaccinated

On 30 June 2022, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic [March 2020] to date, how much money has Whanganui DHB spent on giving free items to the public to encourage them to get vaccinated.

This includes food, coffee, gift cards, prizes such as local and overseas trips, mobile phones, fuel vouchers, Christmas hams and any other such prizes to entice people to get vaccinated.

The information sought in this request is to be used as part of a report by the Northern Advocate.

As the information will be used to ensure a greater understanding of this issue, I ask that any fee is waived.

It is understood elements of the requested information might not be considered public information. If this is the case, I would ask each element is considered separately, described as best it can be and reasons for any information being declined being set against the information sought.

There may be aspects of the information sought which require names to be redacted to meet privacy requirements. In situations such as this, I would ask you indicate the employer and position of the person whose name is redacted for the purposes of clarity.

Whanganui / Central District response:

- 1. Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic [March 2020] to date, the Whanganui DHB spent on giving free items to the public to encourage them to get vaccinated. This includes food, coffee, gift cards, prizes such as local and overseas trips, mobile phones, fuel vouchers, Christmas hams and any other such prizes to entice people to get vaccinated.**

The Whanganui District Health Board has spent \$105,411.93 on giveaways to entice people to get vaccinated.

How to get in contact

If you have any questions, you can contact us at oia@wdhb.org.nz

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Health NZ has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on Health NZ's website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available here.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Andrew McKinnon
Kaihautū Hauora | Interim District Director
Whanganui / Central District