



BAY OF PLENTY
DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD
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OIA REQUEST

Received: 13 April 2021
Due: 12 May 2021
Response Date: 07 May 2021
Subject: Covid Vaccination Rollout Correspondence

In response to your request under the Official Information Act, please find our response below:

Request

Under section 12 of the Official Information Act 1982, I request all original communications including responses

- To the Jan 27 letter from the Ministry of Health around the coronavirus vaccination rollout in your DHB including the confirmatory responses to the request for “Confirmation of the operating model that your DHB will use to implement the day to day running of your vaccination programme” and “Confirmation of detailed service delivery model you will need to implement to deliver vaccinations to border workers and those they live with”

Reply 10788 (2021) has been answered

Portfolio: COVID-19 Response (Hon Chris Hipkins)

Question: On what dates, if any, were DHBs advised they would need to procure their own coronavirus booking systems and by what means were they advised?

Reply: I am advised the Ministry of Health sent a letter to all District Health Board (DHB) Chief Executives on 27 January 2021 with requests including “Confirmation of the operating model that your DHB will use to implement the day to day running of your vaccination programme” and “Confirmation of detailed service delivery model you will need to implement to deliver vaccinations to border workers and those they live with”. Commissioning a national booking system was raised in a steering group meeting on 9 February 2021. The Ministry of Health are co-designing this system with DHBs and it remains a top priority. However, until this system goes live, DHBs are expected to manage their own booking system.

[10788 \(2021\)](#)

Response

What follows is a response to the request for information issued by the Director General of Health on the 27 January 2021. Any queries concerning this response should be directed to Helen De Vere, Cross-Sector COVID Response Operations Manager, helen.devere@bopdhb.govt.nz

1. Confirmation of the detailed service delivery model you will implement in each of your border settings.

- Vaccine for Border Workers at the Port of Tauranga Port will be provided onsite at the Port both on the Mount Maunganui side and the Sulphur Point side. Vaccination will be led and delivered by the iwi provider who has been doing the Port testing as they are trusted agents in that environment. The provider has recently recruited a nurse who is able to vaccinate but their vaccine workforce may need to be supplemented. The DHB is exploring the use of



Occupational Health Providers who also work at the Port for annual influenza campaigns. If this option is not available, then the vaccinator workforce may need to come from within the DHB or PHOs.

- A booking system for port workers is being considered. One idea is to make appointments as part of the swabbing service. This approach is predicated on knowing when we will have the vaccine and how much of it, which will determine the timing of the slots. We will also need to run any solution past the port companies as they will need to agree to release people to attend as there will be at least 30 mins (probably longer) of lost productivity that they will need to factor into their shifts
- At present we get on average around 20 workers a day presenting for swabbing. This allows the port companies to manage the flow and reduce the impact on their business. We would suggest that the best model for delivery would be small regular amounts of vaccine over a longer time period (2 -3 weeks) rather than expecting all port workers to be vaccinated in a few days.
- Whoever the vaccination workforce is they will need to undertake the COVID vaccination training.
- We will also need to get our admin and support staff trained up in the CIR system asap so that they are able to enter the details of the vaccines

2. Confirmation of the service delivery model you will implement to deliver vaccinations to the people border workers live with.

- BOPDHB is currently surveying to understand the scope of the geographic area that Port worker family/whanau live in. We expect that to extend beyond the Western BOP to the Eastern Bay and potentially into Lakes DHB. Tauranga Port have indicated that they will work with us to provide an onsite vaccination area for family/whanau but we will also identify mobile resources that can vaccinate closer to where recipients live increasing the likelihood of them choosing to be vaccinated. Partnerships are already in place for a mobile model because of community testing strategies that have continued to be available. Another model that we are exploring is the use of local GP practices. Where there might be clusters of port whanau we can arrange with a local practice to deliver the vaccinations similar to the model that we used for kiwi fruit workers for an MMR campaign.
 - Vaccinator and non-vaccinator workforce to support this process may have to come from Iwi providers, DHB and PHO in the short term.
 - Port workers will need to self-identify who their household contacts are, guided by clear advice.
 - Again, a booking system will need to be developed to allow us to manage the use of the vaccination cohorts (blocks of 6).

Please note that this response may be published on our website as part of our proactive release practice.

Yours sincerely



DEBBIE BROWN

Senior Advisor Governance and Quality