

21 December 2021



Dear 

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT Request: 2021-125

Thank you for your email of 16 December 2021 to the Carterton District Council (CDC) requesting the following information:

- *A copy of the risk assessment completed by the Carterton Council that concludes the risk of allowing only people with vaccination passes into those council/community facilities that have been restricted access.*
- *A list of first names, last names and council email addresses for elected officials/councillors that voted on the decisions and which way they voted.*

Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meeting Act 1987 (the Act).

A copy of our CDC's COVID-19 Vaccine Pass Assessment-CVP sites is attached as **Appendix A**.

In accordance with the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021 and the Covid Protection Framework (CPF), we are required to maintain an up-to-date register with the vaccine status of all workers in these mandated roles.

No votes were made by elected members on the decision on the CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Pass Assessment. However, discussions were held in order to align with the three councils (within Wairarapa) in the approach that is based on the current level of risk in the community, and designed to best deliver our services while still protecting our team and the wider community.

Ongoing consultation will continue to assess how things are working and the effects on our team. This will include aligning our Health and Safety protocols developed under the Alert Level framework to the current CPF, and consulting with the elected members and staff on a risk assessment of their role to ensure we have the correct requirements and protocols in place to keep the community and the whole team safe.

Please note, the Council now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Geoff Hamilton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line underlining the name.

Geoff Hamilton
Chief Executive
Carterton District Council

RELEASED UNDER LGOIMA

Appendix A

Service Area: Events Centre	Implications if yes to CVP	Implications if no to CVP	Other considerations and recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events Centre (50 Holloway Street) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased public confidence and perception of the H&S robust precautions at the Events Centre and Library facilities. Provide significantly increased safety for the high number of users of the library that are children that are not currently able to be vaccinated, and older people. On average, approx. 300 people use the library per day. Decreased risk to staff H&S and of transmission through library staff that also work in a number of libraries across the South Wairarapa region. Continued provision of services for approx. 90% of the public. Restriction of some services to approx. 10% of public that are not eligible for a CVP. Staff needs – require short term additional staff and training to verify CVPS. IT needs – verification device at entry point. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significantly greater H&S risk to the public and Events Centre staff due to high level of contact. Greater H&S risk to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Elected Members, and Senior Managers of the Council (ELT). This group is important to governance, and ongoing and emergency operations of the council. Unrestricted ability to provide full library services under all CPF settings. Restricted if any, ability to provide events, theatre, meetings, concerts, shows under Red and Orange CPF settings. Higher risk of being a location of interest which would require closure of the building and cleaning and high level of exposure to the public. Some community services will become higher risk such as the children's holiday programmes. Higher risk of staff having to self-isolate jeopardising the ability to operate and/or deliver services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unvaccinated people pose a significantly higher risk of transmitting COVID-19 and are more significantly harmed, than vaccinated people. The Events Centre is a multi-function building with high public usage. There is significant public interaction with staff and other members of the public at this site making it a particularly high-risk site. The building houses a high number of staff working in close proximity with the public and each other (approx. 25 plus visiting staff and casuals). There is a significantly increased risk for contracting COVID-19, and passing it through the Library and Events Centre should a CVP not be required. This would impact multiple teams. There would be significant cost and time involved to make the building alterations required and follow cleaning regimes. Most library services can be delivered in alternative ways, but the Events Centre could not practicably deliver services if there was no CVP resulting in a significant reduction of services for approx. 90% of the community. Recommendation: CVP mandate for the Events Centre building is recommended.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security needs – controlled access at entry to verify CVPs and possibly private security staff to manage adverse visitor behaviour. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced revenue of the Events Centre due to inability to hold events or limited numbers. • Building would require re-modelling to provide ‘separation’ and extensive cleaning costs if ‘limited’ CVP use implemented. 	
Service Area: Swimming Pool	Implications if yes to CVP	Implications if no to CVP	Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carterton Swimming Pool (Pembroke Street) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased public confidence and perception of the H&S robust precautions at the Swimming Pool. • Provide significantly increased safety for the high number of users of the pools that are children that are not currently able to be vaccinated, and older people. • Decreased risk to staff and contractors H&S particularly if required to provide lifesaving and resuscitation. • Staff will be required to verify ages for over 12yrs & 3mths. • Continued provision of services for approx. 90% of the public. • Restriction of service to approx. 10% of public that are not eligible for a CVP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significantly reduced customer confidence and public participation at pools. • Higher risk of infection spread amongst community due to close contact amongst children. • Higher risk of being a location of interest which would require closure of the facility and cleaning. • Under 12’s are high users and there is a duty of care to protect those who cannot be vaccinated. • Increased H&S risk as the facility has reduced H&S options at their disposal for mitigating the transmission of COVID-19 due to the nature of the facility. • Reduced number, or complete halt of school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unvaccinated people pose a significantly higher risk of transmitting COVID-19 and are more significantly harmed, than vaccinated people. • SWDC and MDC are proposing requiring CVP for their pools. To minimise the risk of unvaccinated swimmers being attracted to Carterton swimming pool and increasing the risk for Carterton ratepayers we need to be consistent with other regional pools. • We believe the increased H&S, and public confidence, significantly outweighs the disadvantage to a small number of the public that could not use the facilities should a CVP mandate be put in place. • Recommendation: CPV mandate for the Carterton Swimming Pool is recommended.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff needs – require short term additional staff and training to verify CVPs.• IT needs – verification device at entry point.• Security needs – controlled access at entry to verify CVPs and possibly private security staff to manage adverse visitor behaviour.	<p>visits, due to Public Health Order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continued provision of service for approx. 100% of the public.	
--	---	---	--