## Fire and Emergency New Zealand



065/2021

SUBJECT COVID-19 Vaccinations

DATE 7 October 2021

TO Operational personnel only

FROM Kerry Gregory, National Commander

STATUS Directive

## **Action**

- All personnel must respect the decisions of their colleagues in regard to COVID-19 vaccines.
- If you are subject to unwanted behaviour or comments about vaccination choices raise this with your Manager, your Human Resources Manager, your Union/Association representative or contact the Behaviour and Conduct Office. You can find out more about your options <a href="here">here</a>.
- If you witness unwanted behaviour I ask that you be an upstander and call it out.
- Please ensure you are familiar with <u>National Notice 053/2020</u>.

## Situation

- There is currently no mandated requirement from the Government for our personnel to be vaccinated against COVID-19.
- Fire and Emergency's position on COVID-19 vaccinations remains that
  only people travelling overseas for work will require to be vaccinated and
  we strongly encourage all others who can be vaccinated to do so.
- We are aware of rising tensions between personnel who have been vaccinated and those who are not.
- Vaccinations are a personal choice for most of us and we need to respect each other's decisions. It is also important to note that not everyone can be vaccinated.
- It is important that our crews, brigades, and teams work together effectively so we can continue to provide the best possible service and support to our communities.
- I am asking you to all be kind to and respect each other as we continue to live and operate in these unusual and complex times.

End of Notice.