

7 July 2020

REF NUMBER: IR-01-20-15332

Daniel Farrell  
[fyi-request-13025-ed12b930@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-13025-ed12b930@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Daniel Farrell

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 4 June 2020 for information relating to New Zealand Police policies.

You requested:

1. *What policies and procedures exist regarding the use of profiling of drivers and other vehicle occupants before undertaking traffic stops and/or pursuits?*
2. *What data is held regarding the use of profiling of drivers and other vehicle occupants before undertaking traffic stops and/or pursuits?*

New Zealand Police does not have any policies regarding the profiling of drivers or other vehicle occupants before undertaking traffic stops or before pursuing a fleeing vehicle. As such, this part of your request is refused pursuant to section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 in that the information requested does not exist.

Police stop vehicles for a range of different reasons pursuant to different legal authorities, including the Land Transport Act 1998 and the Search and Surveillance Act 2012. For the vast majority of vehicle stops Police officers do not know who is in a vehicle until they speak with the occupants. For the very small proportion of occasions when Police may know who a driver or occupants are before stopping the vehicle, they may conduct a query on the person or persons through Police's National Intelligence Application (NIA), if circumstances reasonably permit. NIA holds information such as driver licence status, criminal history and if someone has a court issued warrant for their arrest. Information ascertained from such a query may help inform Police decisions regarding signalling the driver to stop, including whether to do so immediately or at all.

You have the right, under section 28 (3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely



**Inspector Mike Brooklands**  
Acting National Manager  
National Road Policing Centre

**Police National Headquarters**

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