

Hon Iain Lees-Galloway



MP for Palmerston North

Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety Deputy Leader of the House

Minister of Immigration

Minister for ACC

02/07/2020

Matt Simpson

fyi-request-13029-a0f4e109@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Simpson,

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) received on 25 May 2020 requesting the following information:

Can you please confirm that Immigration New Zealand uses an intelligence platform called "Intelligence Capability Enhancement" (ICE) in addition to AMS and that this program holds data on persons both within New Zealand and outside of New Zealand of a sensitive nature.

Can the minister also confirm that this information is never released in information requests made to INZ, and Immigration New Zealand is withholding from the public the use of this system.

Can I please have a copy of the business case presented to Immigration New Zealand for the intended use of ICE.

I am advised that Immigration New Zealand (INZ) uses Intelligence Capability Enhancement (ICE), which is a customised version of the 'InterQuest Intelligence Server' product in addition to AMS. ICE functions as a stand-alone document and information storage depository, capable of handling both unclassified and classified information.

OIA requests received by the Ministry follow standard OIA processing procedures. Information is held across multiple systems within the Ministry. All information deemed within scope of a request is considered for release, including information held in ICE and in other systems. This is in accordance with section 2(1)(b) of the OIA which defines a document as a document in any form including any information recorded or stored by means of any tape-recorder, computer, or other device; and any material subsequently derived from information so recorded or stored.

The decision as to which information is released is considered under the OIA or the Privacy Act 1993, as relevant. Within the OIA there are a number of bases on which information might be withheld, such as section 9(2)(a) in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, section 6(d) which relates to the safety of a person being endangered, and section 9(2)(c) which relates to the protection of the health and safety of members of the public. Where section 9 of the OIA applies officials must also consider the public interest when determining whether to withhold information.

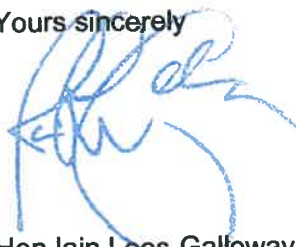
I am advised that INZ does not withhold from the public the use of the ICE database.

A search of the Ministry's holdings for a copy of the business case for the intended use of the ICE system was undertaken and no relevant documents were found. Therefore this part of your request is refused in reliance on section 18(e) of the OIA, because the document(s) alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to

locate it, cannot be found. In accordance with section 18B of the OIA I have considered whether consulting with you would assist with your request; however, I do not consider that it would.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Hon Iain Lees-Galloway
Minister of Immigration