



22 February 2021

Valerie Morse

By email: fyi-request-14293-4f1bc258@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2020/21-0262

Dear Valerie Morse

Official Information Act request relating to assessments mentioned in RCOI Report

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) as a transfer from NZ Police on 17 December 2020. You requested:

"Please provide the two 2014 Police assessments noted in the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Christchurch massacre:

- 1. The Right-wing in New Zealand: Myth vs Reality*
- 2. Domestic Extremism: Unlikely but not out of the question*

If these items are already publicly available, please direct me to the location of these items. If there are similar, more recent assessments relating to the same subjects, please provide these as well."

I note the time limits for responding to your request were extended by 10 working days under section 15A of the Act to allow for further consultation on the response to your request. Following this, I am now in a position to respond.

Please find enclosed copies of the two documents requested. Some material has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- Section 6(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand,
- Section 6(c), to protect the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial, and
- Section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals.

In considering these documents, I would note they were commenced by NZ Police and finalised by DPMC, hence the inclusion of the NZ Police logo on the documents.

In considering your request, I would note that the National Assessments Bureau (NAB) provides independent and impartial assessments on events and developments relevant to New Zealand's national security and international relations, with a particular focus on the global environment.

With regard to the part of your request for “similar, more recent assessments relating to the same subjects”, I have interpreted this to be for other assessments produced by the NAB and distributed by DPMC. I have accordingly understood this part of your request to be for assessments that focused on domestic right-wing terrorist threats and/or other endemic domestic extremist trends. I can confirm only the two enclosed documents meet these criteria, insofar as your request relates to assessments distributed by DPMC. NAB’s work includes providing assessments on all forms of extremism but this has primarily taken a global, rather than domestic, focus.

Where section 9 of the Act applies, in making my decision, I have taken the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act into account.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on DPMC’s website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Tony Lynch
**Deputy Chief Executive
National Security Group**