

20 Aug 2021

Mirkyton Ummashtarte

Email: fyi-request-16313-73879755@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mirkyton

Request for information

IR-01-21-24299

Thank you for your request dated 6 August 2021 information in regards to the Special Investigations Group (SIG).

You requested:

- 1/ *Please advise as to whether the "Special Investigations Group" (SIG) formed in 2005 continues to exist as a part of the New Zealand Police in any capacity, such as under a different name, or folded into a different unit with a similar remit.*
- 2/ *If the SIG has ceased to exist, please provide details on the following:*
 - *At what date did the SIG cease to exist?*
 - *What were the circumstances of the SIG's dissolution?*
 - *Has a similar unit taken on the role of the SIG since its dissolution? Similar here meaning possessing the ability to solicit informants for investigations regarding matters of national security.*

Your request has been considered in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

The SIGs were renamed on 15 August 2016 to the National Security Investigation Team (NSIT), as part of a restructure that brought those groups under a single team and national reporting line. Other than the structural and name change, there was no material alteration to the nature of the roles and duties undertaken by the team. There is more detail on the functions and operation of the NSIT in Part 8, Chapter 6, of the Report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the terrorist attack on Christchurch masjidain on 15 March 2019, published 26 November 2020 and available on the internet here:

<https://christchurchattack.royalcommission.nz/the-report/>.

If you are not satisfied with the Police response to your request, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to seek an investigation and review of the Police decision.

Yours sincerely,



Inspector David Kennedy
New Zealand Police

Police National Headquarters

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