

11 March 2022

IR-01-22-4549

Chuck Schooner
Fyi-request-18543-6xxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.xxx.xx

Tēnā koe Chuck

Request for information

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 11 February 2022, in which you asked for information regarding the protests surrounding Parliament grounds.

Specifically you have asked:

1. *Does the police commissioner understand why there are protests at the moment? Any number of reasons can be pointed to but you must understand why people are now desperate - loss of businesses, jobs, relationships, property*
2. *As a scenario if the police joined the protesters (who fund their salary and our political classes salary) walked off the job do you think politicians would immediately revoke all mandates and the commissioner would benefit from more available officers?*

Your request invites Police to offer opinions on the motivation of the protestors and the possible outcome of a hypothetical scenario. There is no obligation on an agency to form an opinion to answer a request. Your request is therefore refused pursuant to s 18(g) of the OIA, as the information is not held and Police has no reason to believe it is held by another agency.

Police acknowledge the right to lawfully protest and worked in good faith to allow lawful and reasonable protest while protecting the interests of others in the area.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Dave Greig
Superintendent
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