



11 March 2022

Scott

fyi-request-18563-xxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.org.nz

Ref: OIA-2021/22-0984

Dear Scott

Official Information Act request relating to the National Assessments Committee

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 14 February 2022. You requested:

1. *"A list of all reports issued through the NAC during the years 2007 to 2015. Reports that were solely the product of the External Assessments Bureau/National Assessments Bureau can be excluded. That is, I am seeking a list of all reports issued through the NAC from 2007-2015 that were either:*

- *The product of an agency other than EAB/NAB*
- *The joint product of EAB/NAB and another agency*

I would like this list to include the report title, date of issue, author agency/agencies, and security classification.

2. *A copy of the current National Assessments Committee terms of reference."*

In considering part two of your request, I am releasing to you a copy of the National Assessments Committee (NAC) Terms of Reference in full.

As is the case with assessments produced by the National Assessments Bureau (NAB), the titles and dates of reports prepared for the NAC contain information that if released would be likely to prejudice the international relations and national security of New Zealand. The information within scope of part one of your request is therefore withheld in full under the following sections of the Act:

- Section 6(a) as the making available of that information would be likely *"to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand;"*
- Section 6(b)(i) as the making available of that information would be likely to *"prejudice the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government."*

In considering your request I note that, in response to a previous request under the Act, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) has released the following two papers that were presented to the NAC in 2014:

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

These papers can be accessed here: [dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2021-08/dpmc-roiar-
oia-2020-21-0262-assessments-mentioned-in-rcoi-report.pdf](https://dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2021-08/dpmc-roiar-
oia-2020-21-0262-assessments-mentioned-in-rcoi-report.pdf)

These papers were referenced in “*Ko tō tātou kāinga tēnei, Report: Royal Commission of Inquiry into the terrorist attack on Christchurch masjidain on 15 March 2019*” and have been approved for public release under the Act. As noted in my response to the previous request under the Act linked above, some relevant information has been withheld from these two documents and should continue to be withheld under the Act, on the grounds described in that response and marked on the documents themselves.

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

We do not intend to publish this response on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet’s website.

Yours sincerely

Tony Lynch
Deputy Chief Executive
National Security Group

Enc: Copy of National Assessments Committee Terms of Reference