

9 December 2014

Ben Moore
fyi-request-1875-db78fc9c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ben Moore

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – NEW ZEALAND ADULT GANGS

I refer to your email of 11 November 2014 responding to information Police provided you under the Official Information Act 1982 on 4 November 2014 on New Zealand Adult Gangs.

In your email of 11 November 2014 you requested:

1. quantitative raw data used to produce the information provided to the Minister of Police and Cabinet
2. total number of individuals flagged for gangs and sub categories in the National Intelligence Application
3. a yes/no confirmation that New Zealand Police is capable of querying National Intelligence Application data for statistical insights.

Raw data used to produce the information provided to the Minister of Police and Cabinet

You write that *“my request for the raw data used to produce the information provided to the Minister of Police and Cabinet was denied on privacy grounds”* and that this *“appears to have been erroneously denied”*.

Police stands by the determination to refuse your request for the raw data used to produce the headline figures provided to the Minister of Police under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 to “protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons” as this would involve identifying the individual gang member and their details.

You have now clarified your request and you have requested *“only quantitative raw data, relating to the database query or other method, and result used to arrive at the published figure”*.

Joshua Grainger has left an annotation on your FYI website request page and has provided you, and *“anyone else looking”*, access to *“the breakdown of the Minister’s statistics”* at <https://www.fyi.org.nz/request/1875-gang-numbers-cited-by-minster-of-police#outgoing-5045>.

Safer Communities Together

POLICE NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

180 Molesworth Street, PO Box 3017, DX: SX11149, Wellington 6140, New Zealand
Telephone: (04) 474 9499 Facsimile: (04) 498 7400 www.police.govt.nz

I am refusing your request under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the information requested is publicly available.

Total number of individuals flagged for gangs (and sub categories in the National Intelligence Application)

You write that some of the information provided is not what was requested.

I believe that the information provided to you was what you requested.

On 8 August 2014 you requested: *"statistics that Police hold on gang memberships"*.

You provided an example of where Police information might come from: *"for instance the total number of individuals flagged for 'Gangs' in the National Intelligence Application"*.

You requested that the statistics *"be broken down to include, where collected, Gang 'Members', 'Prospects', 'Associates' and any other subcategories used for a similar purpose"*.

In my response of 4 November 2014, I provided the statistics that Police hold on gang membership, including the number of patched gang members and the number of prospects.

As noted in this response, the source of statistics that Police hold on gang members, and that was used to provide the number of gang members and prospects in the Cabinet paper: Whole-of-Government Action Plan to Reduce the Harms Caused by New Zealand Adult Gangs and Transnational Crime Groups, has come from data provided from Police national and district intelligence units. The Cabinet paper is available at www.police.govt.nz.

You are now requesting *"the total number of individuals flagged for 'Gangs' and related subcategories in the National Intelligence Application"*.

I am refusing your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the information requested is not held by Police and there are no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department or Minister of the Crown.

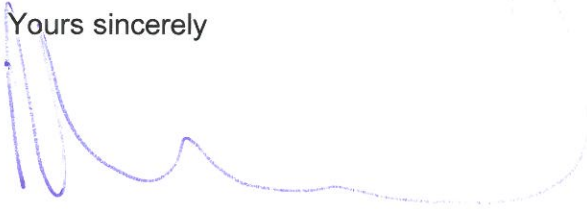
Police does not hold statistics from the National Intelligence Application on the total number of individuals flagged for gangs and related subcategories. Your request for Police to query the National Intelligence Application to provide the total number of individuals flagged for gangs and related subcategories is a research request and falls outside the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

A yes/no confirmation that New Zealand Police is capable of querying National Intelligence Application data for statistical insights

Yes, however this would depend on the type of the information sought.

If you are not satisfied with my response to your requests under the Official Information Act 1982 you have the right to complain to the Office of the Ombudsman and seek an investigation and review of my decision.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Clement', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Clement
Deputy Commissioner: National Operations