

By email

3 November 2014

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Alex Harris
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Dear Ms Harris

Request for information 2014/136

I refer to your request for information dated 2 October 2014, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) on 2 October 2014. You have requested the following information:

“What video surveillance systems does the council control? For each system, I would like to know: its purpose, the system’s capabilities, how long data is retained for, and whether it uses facial recognition or automated number-plate recognition technology.

I am not interested in video surveillance systems covering a single building (e.g. security cameras in WRC offices), unless they are networked with other systems. I am interested in systems which cover a wider area, e.g. traffic control cameras, or the rail system described in 3News’ story.”

GWRC’s response follows.

GWRC has a CCTV system which fits your description located across the rail network. Camera locations include:

- Stations
- Car parks
- Pedestrian subways; and
- Train stabling yards.

The CCTV camera system helps ensure the safety of the public and GWRC’s assets.

Data from the CCTV camera system on the rail network is typically kept for 14 days, but this is dependent on how much space is on the hard drive. Cameras are activated only when activity is detected and each location

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has its own hard drive. This means that data will be overwritten in some locations more or less frequently, depending on how often the cameras are activated in each location.

CCTV cameras installed by GWRC do not have facial recognition capabilities. Cameras on the rail network at Masterton and Featherston have automated number plate recognition technology, but this is being phased out.

If you have any concerns with the decision(s) referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Yours sincerely



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General Manager, Public Transport

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