

fyi-request-20957-fef88267@requests.fyi.org.nz <fyi-request-20957-fef88267@requests.fyi.org.nz>

Dear Mason

Official Information Act 1982 - Request for Information Dated 26 October 2022

1. We write in response to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the **OIA**) dated 26 October 2022 to Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (**MBIE**) for the following information:

“In the 2013/14 and 2014/15 financial year Auror (previously known as eyedentify), was granted two separate lots of taxpayer funding under the New Zealand Venture Investment Fund. (https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/order-paper-questions/written-questions/document/QWA_00575_2017/575-2017-rt-hon-winston-peters-to-the-minister-for-economic). Please provide:

- a. Any documents or material related to the proposal which including any reference to license plate recognition technology or ANPR related references.
- b. Any consultation with the NZ Police regarding this proposal. If so, provide the communications. (emails etc)
- c. Any record of the conditions of the funding.”

2. MBIE has provided your OIA request to New Zealand Growth Capital Partners (**NZGCP**), formerly called New Zealand Venture Investment Fund, as NZGCP hold information responding to your request and MBIE does not hold any relevant information itself. We set out NZGCP’s response below.

3. As a general comment, NZGCP confirms that it:

1. Does not hold any information in relation to any consultation with the New Zealand Police regarding this proposal.
2. Does hold information responding to the balance of your OIA request, and NZGCP has carefully reviewed that information for the purposes of making a decision on your request. Having carried out that review, NZGCP discloses information responding to a number of your requests. However, NZGCP is withholding some documents or portions of documents in a number of instances on the basis that it has good reason for doing so under section 9 of the OIA. Where NZGCP is withholding documents or portions of documents, it has considered whether the public interest in favour of disclosure outweighs the reasons for withholding it, and concluded that it does not in those instances.

4. In particular, NZGCP has withheld information (both as redactions and entire documents) that:

1. is private information of natural persons (pursuant to s9(2)(a) of the OIA). This applies to:
 - a. the personal information of individuals (including email addresses and telephone numbers of individuals); and

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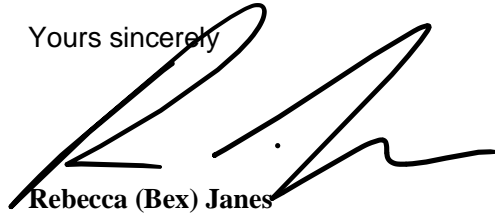
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- b. the amount of money certain individuals invested.
2. is commercially sensitive, includes trade secrets, and/or disclosure of this information would be likely to prejudice unreasonably the commercial position and activities of Auror and NZGCP (pursuant to s9(2)(b)). This applies to:
 - a. The sum NZGCP paid for its shares in Auror, and the current estimate of the value of those shares;
 - b. Information provided by Auror to NZGCP prior to NZGCP's decision to invest in Auror;
 - c. Internal NZGCP information on its decision to invest in Auror;
 - d. Information NZGCP holds to monitor its investment in Auror;
 - e. Information on NZGCP's interaction with Sparkbox on the investment in Auror;
3. is subject to an obligation of confidence, where the making available of that information may prejudice the supply of similar information, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied (pursuant to s9(2)(ba) of the OIA). In particular, NZGCP is subject to contractual obligations to hold information relating to Auror on a confidential basis. This applies to:
 - a. Information provided by Auror to NZGCP prior to NZGCP's decision to invest in Auror;
 - b. Internal NZGCP information on its decision to invest in Auror;
 - c. Information NZGCP holds to monitor its investment in Auror;
 - d. Information on NZGCP's interaction with Sparkbox on the investment in Auror;
4. contains legally privileged information (pursuant to s9(2)(h) of the OIA). This applies to:
 - a. Legal advice provided by NZGCP by its external lawyers.
5. Against that backdrop, NZGCP is providing 14 documents in response to your OIA request. The documents that are being disclosed to you are **enclosed** in the document folder that accompanies this letter.
6. Two of those documents have been released in their entirety, while the remaining 12 have had redactions applied for the reasons set out at paragraph 4 above.
7. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response to your OIA request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

8. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Rebecca (Bex) Janes
Head of Legal

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