

16 January 2023

J A HARRIS  
fyi-request-21323-cf55c578@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear J A Harris

***Request for information***

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 3 December 2022, in which you requested the following:

*Please provide details of the costs incurred as part of Operation Bush and Operation Peruvian.*

*Please provide any documents which detail the justification for the operations, including any cost benefit analysis or other similar.*

*Please provide any documents which review the success, suitability, or value for money of the operation.*

In response to the request please refer to the below information:

Costs incurred

The New Zealand Police Financial Crime Group (FCG) do not record the number of hours or total time invested in any given asset recovery investigation. As the two Operations are still currently at Investigation stage and are yet to be heard before the courts an accurate reflection of the costs incurred are unable to be provided.


Documents which detail the justification for the Operations

This information is being withheld under Section 6(c) of the Official Information Act. The making available of this information would likely “prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial”. Further, I am declining to release this information under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. Section 9(2)(a) of the Act allows for the withholding of information to “protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons”.

Success, suitability, or value for money of the operation

**Police National Headquarters**

180 Molesworth Street. PO Box 3017, Wellington 6140, New Zealand.  
Telephone: 04 474 9499. Fax: 04 498 7400. [www.police.govt.nz](http://www.police.govt.nz)



As of 11 January 2023, the FCG have restrained an estimated \$16.9 million worth of assets as a result of both Operation Bush and Operation Peruvian.

Over 10,000 cannabis plants have been recovered over the course of Operation Bush and Operation Peruvian.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely

*H Roberts*

**Helen Roberts**  
File Coordinator  
Service Group  
New Zealand Police