

27 April 2023

Mason Helm  
[fyi-request-22334-d1a22fca@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-22334-d1a22fca@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mason

***Request for Information***

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 30 March 2023, in which you requested Police policy on Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) and user guides from Auror.

Our responses are as below:

- *Can you please confirm whether the police manual chapter on ANPR that is published at <https://www.police.govt.nz/sites/default/files/publications/automatic-number-plate-recognition-210922.pdf> is current?*

The Police Manual chapter you cite above is the current policy for ANPR.

- *I note that this police manual chapter does not detail when a forward facing production order may [purportedly] authorise queries on Auror or vGRID, but the Auror guidelines updated September 2022 suggest one may be used in lieu of a Surveillance device warrant to "track a vehicle". Please provide the relevant documents in relation that may address this inconsistency. An updated version of the manual perhaps?*

The reference to a "forward-facing production order" was found in Auror's user guide for the use of the Auror platform. While section 71 of the Search and Surveillance Act enables Police to issue production orders, Police has provided guidance in the ANPR Policy that accessing active detection requires Search and Surveillance Act authority by way of a tracking warrant or section 48. As such the production order reference has since been removed from the Auror user guide.

Given there are no documents that address an inconsistency, your request is refused under s18(e) of the OIA, as the information requested does not exist.

I trust that you find this response helpful. If you are not satisfied with this response, however, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review Police's handling of your request. Information about how to do so is available at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Sincerely



Carla Gilmore  
Manager Emergent Technology