

14 June 2023

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Tēnā koe James

### ***Request for information***

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 24 May 2023. You wrote:

*As per the Minister of Police Ginny Anderson's interview on 24th May 2023 with Mike Hosking please provide all data concerning serious assaults on Police officers in all areas where the Tactical Response Model has been deployed.*

*Please provide a month by month number of serious assaults on Police officers in the areas concerned for the previous 12 months before the TPM was deployed .. and then the number of serious assaults on Police since the Tactical Response Model has been deployed.*

*Please provide a month by month number of non serious/other assaults on Police officers in the areas concerned for the previous 12 months before the TPM was deployed .. and then the number all non serious/other assaults since the Tactical Response Model has been deployed.*

The phased national rollout of the Tactical Response Model (TRM) was announced in March 2023, with the model expected to be fully implemented in the first District by July 2023. As such, I cannot provide you with the data on serious assaults on police officers where the TRM has been deployed, as it has not yet been fully deployed in its final state in any District to date.

A trial of the TRM was run in four Proof of Concept (PoC) Districts from 30 November 2021 (the PoC trial). The four Districts were Counties Manukau, Waikato, Central, and Northland. It is important to note that during the PoC trial period, the TRM continued to evolve, and changes were made to it during this time.

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### **Police National Headquarters**

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The TRM Evaluation Report, which contains information on the TRM, including the use of force on police in PoC Districts, was published on 30 November 2022 and is available on the Police website<sup>1</sup>.

The Evaluation covered the period of 1 January to 30 June 2022 and the report states that there were no offences of a presentation or use of firearm against police in any District that was a part of the TRM trial. The Evaluation further showed the rare but serious occurrences of firearms use on Police were lower in all PoC Districts compared to what Police would expect had the TRM not been implemented.

There are 12 offence codes that specifically relate to assault on a police officer. These are listed below:

- 1481 - Use Firearm Against Law Enforcement Officer - Crimes Act 1961 Section 198A(1)
- 1482 - Use Firearm to Resist Arrest/Detention - Crimes Act 1961 Section 198A(1)(b)
- 1551 - Assault Police (Crimes Act) Firearm - Crimes Act 1961 Section 192(2)
- 1552 - Assault Police (Crimes Act) Other Weapon - Crimes Act 1961 Section 192(2)
- 1553 - Assault Police (Crimes Act) Manually - Crimes Act 1961 Section 192(2)
- 1554 - Assault Police (Crimes Act) Stabbing/Cutting Weapon - Crimes Act 1961 Section 192(2)
- 1559 - Other Assault Police (Crimes Act) - Crimes Act 1961 Section 192(2)
- 1611 - Assaults Police (Firearm) - Summary Offences Act 1981 Sections 9 and 10
- 1612 - Assaults Police (Other Weapon) - Summary Offences Act 1981 Sections 9 and 10
- 1613 - Assaults Police (Manually) - Summary Offences Act 1981 Sections 9 and 10
- 1616 - Assaults Police (Stabbing/Cutting Weapon) - Summary Offences Act 1981 Sections 9 and 10
- 1619 - Other Assault Police - Summary Offences Act 1981 Sections 9 and 10

Offence codes beginning with 1400 are Grievous Assaults, 1500 are Serious Assaults, and 1600 are categorised as Minor Assaults in the Police computer system.

In the 12 months before the TRM pilot started in these districts, there were 401 assault on police offences that fall into the Serious Assault class, and 375 in the 12 months after. For grievous and minor assaults, this number is 394 offences in the 12 months before the TRM pilots launched in these districts, and 348 offences in the 12 months after the pilot launched.

In addition to the offence codes listed above, there are other offences that may not specifically mention a police officer, but could still be used to describe a similar situation. For example, an offence of “wound with intent to cause grievous bodily harm” could be used but it does not mention a police officer specifically. The decision about which offence code to use in a given case is made based on known evidence and circumstances of each case, with the consideration of the Solicitor-General guidelines.

Provided below is the number of 'assault on police' offences in TRM pilot Districts between 1 December 2020 and 25 May 2023 recorded by New Zealand Police. The data is for the above-specified offence codes only, and, therefore, may not be representative of all assaults on police officers. One incident (occurrence) could have multiple offences, victims, and offenders. Note that these are recorded offences, regardless of outcome/resolution of the offence.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.police.govt.nz/sites/default/files/publications/trm-evaluation-report.pdf>

Table 1. 'Assault on police' offences in TRM pilot Districts between 1 December 2020 and 25 May 2023, by offence class and month.

Month \ Offence Class	1400 - Grievous Assaults	1500 - Serious Assaults	1600 - Minor Assaults
December 2020	1	41	26
January 2021	4	25	41
February 2021		41	27
March 2021		39	32
April 2021	2	23	33
May 2021		28	25
June 2021	2	28	33
July 2021		30	25
August 2021		35	31
September 2021	2	32	30
October 2021	1	36	20
November 2021	6	43	34
December 2021	2	47	33
January 2022		36	30
February 2022		29	24
March 2022		24	19
April 2022		23	25
May 2022		29	32
June 2022		27	30
July 2022		34	24
August 2022		38	34
September 2022	2	28	35
October 2022		35	30
November 2022		44	28
December 2022	3	49	40
January 2023		40	14
February 2023		22	31
March 2023	3	37	29
April 2023	1	22	23
May 2023 to 25 <sup>th</sup>		24	20
Total:	29	989	858

This data is drawn from a dynamic operational database and is subject to change as new information is recorded or updated.

Please note that as part of its commitment to openness and transparency, Police proactively releases some information and documents that may be of interest to the public. An anonymised version of this response may be publicly released on the New Zealand Police website.

Yours sincerely

**Superintendent Dave Greig**  
Director Capability