



**Te Pā Whakamarumarū**  
New Zealand Security  
Intelligence Service

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[www.nzsis.govt.nz](http://www.nzsis.govt.nz)

7 July 2023

Jason Gooch  
[fyi-request-23201-d4546a38@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-23201-d4546a38@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Jason,

### **Official information request**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 20 June 2023 to the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS) seeking information about unexplained aerial phenomena (UAP). Specifically, you requested the following information:

- 1. Any documents, reports, or memos related to the Five Eyes Foreign Material Recovery Program (FMP) with a specific focus on UAP.*
- 2. Information on the objectives, scope, and operational aspects of the FMP in relation to UAP.*
- 3. Any assessments, studies, or analyses conducted by the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service regarding recovered foreign materials associated with UAP.*
- 4. Any communication or correspondence between the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service and other Five Eyes alliance members regarding the FMP and UAP.*
- 5. Any records of encounters with UAP, including incident reports, witness testimonies, and analysis of potential national security threats.*

As you have also made this request to the New Zealand Defence Force, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Minister of Defence we have not considered transferring the request to another agency who may hold information. Our response, therefore, is limited to information held by the NZSIS.

### **OIA response**

In response to your request, I can advise that the NZSIS does not hold any information about a Five Eyes FMP or any records of encounters with UAP. As such, I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the documents requested do not exist.

### **Intelligence and security agency functions**

For context, it might be helpful to explain more about the NZSIS's functions. Our priorities, called the National Security and Intelligence Priorities (NSIPs), are set by Government. The NSIPs outline key areas of national security interest to the New Zealand Government – more information can be found online at [www.dpmc.govt.nz](http://www.dpmc.govt.nz).

The key priorities relevant to the NZSIS and our functions are: foreign interference and espionage, terrorism, regional stability, space security and threats to New Zealanders overseas. Our remit in relation to space security is limited – our only role is in undertaking national security risk assessments for all activities licensed or permitted under the Outer Space and High-altitude Activities Act 2017.

## **Review**

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact [oa.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz](mailto:oa.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that the NZSIS proactively publishes OIA responses in accordance with the expectations of Te Kawa Mataaho/the Public Service Commission. We intend to publish this letter (with your personal information removed) on the NZSIS website. Publication of such responses is done on a quarterly basis.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A. Hampton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**On behalf of Andrew Hampton**

Te Tumu Whakarae mō Te Pā Whakamarumarū  
Director-General of Security