



## Te Tari Taiwhenua Internal Affairs

18 July 2024

Craig Innes

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Tēnā koe Craig,

### Your Official Information Act request OIA 2324-1096

Thank you for your Official Information Act (OIA) request dated 20 June 2024 to the Department of Internal Affairs (the Department). You asked for the following:

*Please supply all documentation relating to the Archway Database, including (but not limited to):*

- 1. Database description*
- 2. Database handbooks*
- 3. Database schema*
- 4. Database object query language*
- 5. Database object query language*
- 6. Other database languages*
- 7. Database file types*

### **Response to your request**

After careful consideration and thorough consultation process, the Department has concluded that the release of information regarding the Archway Database, at this level of detail, needs to be considered in the general context of cyber-attack risk, from both within and outside New Zealand.

Having considered each component of the request, we have determined that releasing this level of information would entail revealing critical system architectures, designs and technical details to the public, creating a serious security risk for the Department. In the event of an attack, the publicly available information could be exploited to gain access to data or information. Public knowledge of how a system is constructed can provide an attacker with the means to more easily attack and compromise the information held. Due to the sensitivity of information contained in Archway, such as Police incident and offence files or classified government records, this could lead to a breach of the privacy of New Zealanders, or may prejudice the security of New Zealand.

Hence, we are refusing your request under section 18(a) of the act as there are good reasons for withholding this information. The specific sections that apply are:

- Section 6(a) - The availability of this information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand
- Section 9(2)(a) - To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

### **Proactive release of this response**

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, the Department has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on the Department's website. All requestor data,

including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available here: [Official Information Act Requests-2 - dia.govt.nz](https://www.dia.govt.nz/official-information-act-requests-2)

### **Access to the Ombudsman**

If you are dissatisfied with the Department's decision on your request for information, you have the right, under section 28 of the OIA, to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman. The Office of the Ombudsman can be contacted by phone on 0800 802 602, via post at PO Box 10152 Wellington or via email to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Nāku noa, nā



Murray Davey

General Manager

Te Ara Matihiko | Technology Services and Solutions

Te Tari Taiwhenua | Department of Internal Affairs