

15 June 2026

Dale

[fyi-request-34739-a46ed989@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-34739-a46ed989@requests.fyi.org.nz)

REF: OIA-22251

Dear Dale

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email of 19 May 2026 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

- 1. Copies of any documents held by NZTA regarding the legality of mobile speed camera vehicles and/or trailers stopping or parking on motorways.*
- 2. Copies of any policies, operational guidance, instructions, manuals, or training material relating to where mobile speed camera vehicles and/or trailers may lawfully stop or park on motorways.*
- 3. Confirmation of the specific legal authority NZTA relies upon to permit contracted speed camera operators to stop or park vehicles and/or trailers on motorway shoulders or verges.*
- 4. Confirmation of whether NZTA considers contracted speed camera operators to be "enforcement officers" for the purposes of the Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004, and if not, the legal basis on which motorway stopping restrictions are considered not to apply.*
- 5. Copies of any exemptions, notices, authorisations, or approvals granted under the Land Transport Act 1998 or Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004 relating to mobile speed camera vehicles and/or trailers operating on motorways.*
- 6. Details of any internal reviews, complaints, investigations, or incidents concerning the legality of motorway parking by mobile speed camera vehicles and/or trailers since it took over safety camera operations.*
- 7. The total number of recorded mobile speed camera deployments to motorways since NZTA took over safety camera operations.*
- 8. The total number of infringement offence notices and issued total face value of those notices resulting from mobile speed camera deployments on motorways since NZTA took over safety camera operations.*

I shall respond to each of your requests in turn.

For context, section 82(1)(d) of the Government Roadway Powers Act 1989 (GRPA) allows a vehicle to be on a motorway, including its sides, for the purpose of enforcing an enactment. In this case, the relevant enactment is the Land Transport Act 1998 (LTA).

**1. Copies of any documents held by NZTA regarding the legality of mobile speed camera vehicles and/or trailers stopping or parking on motorways.**

As the GRPA allows us to park on motorways, we do not hold documents regarding the legality of mobile safety camera vehicles parking on motorways. I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information does not exist.

**2. Copies of any policies, operational guidance, instructions, manuals, or training material relating to where mobile speed camera vehicles and/or trailers may lawfully stop or park on motorways.**

Our guidance on deployment of mobile safety camera vehicles is publicly available at this link: <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/travelling-on-our-roads/safety-cameras/about-safety-cameras/safety-camera-types/mobile-safety-cameras#general-deployment-guide>

The current mobile safety camera contract with Acusensus New Zealand provides approximately 80,000 hours of enforcement each year. It is due for renewal in December 2029 and is valued at about \$20 million per annum.

Operational guidance, instructions, manuals, and training material for Acusensus vehicle operators contain commercially sensitive information. Releasing this material would disclose trade secrets, prejudice the supplier's commercial position, and harm our ability to obtain cost-effective mobile camera services in future. This information is therefore being withheld under section 9(2)(b)(i) as the information would disclose a trade secret and section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act as the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

**3. Confirmation of the specific legal authority NZTA relies upon to permit contracted speed camera operators to stop or park vehicles and/or trailers on motorway shoulders or verges.**

Section 82(1)(d) of the GRPA provides the legislative authority for mobile safety cameras to enforce the LTA on motorways.

**3. Confirmation of whether NZTA considers contracted speed camera operators to be "enforcement officers" for the purposes of the Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004, and if not, the legal basis on which motorway stopping restrictions are considered not to apply.**

Mobile safety camera operators are not enforcement officers. Enforcement officers are appointed by NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) under section 138 of the LTA to issue safety camera infringements for moving vehicle and red-light camera offences. The specific legislation is outlined in the following sections of the LTA:

- Section 208A outlines that the Agency is an enforcement officer:

[www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1998/0110/latest/LMS411620.html?search=sw\\_096be8ed820016ff\\_95\(b\)\\_25\\_se&p=1](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1998/0110/latest/LMS411620.html?search=sw_096be8ed820016ff_95(b)_25_se&p=1)

- Section 139 allows an enforcement officer to issue infringements:

[www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1998/0110/latest/DLM435155.html?search=sw\\_096be8ed820016ff\\_95\(b\)\\_25\\_se&p=1#DLM435155](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1998/0110/latest/DLM435155.html?search=sw_096be8ed820016ff_95(b)_25_se&p=1#DLM435155)

For the avoidance of doubt, the 'Agency' is defined under section 2(1) as the New Zealand Transport Agency established under section 93 of the Land Transport Management Act 2003.

***5. Copies of any exemptions, notices, authorisations, or approvals granted under the Land Transport Act 1998 or Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004 relating to mobile speed camera vehicles and/or trailers operating on motorways.***

There are no such exemptions, notices, authorisations, or approvals. They are not required because the GRPA provides the authority to undertake enforcement on a motorway. I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information does not exist.

***6. Details of any internal reviews, complaints, investigations, or incidents concerning the legality of motorway parking by mobile speed camera vehicles and/or trailers since it took over safety camera operations.***

NZTA has received and responded to complaints from two people about mobile safety cameras on motorways. I am withholding the details of those complaints under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. I can confirm the complaints concerned compliance with the *Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004*. We advised the complainants that the relevant provision is the GRPA, and that the vehicles were enforcing the speed limit in accordance with that Act.

***7. The total number of recorded mobile speed camera deployments to motorways since NZTA took over safety camera operations.***

***8. The total number of infringement offence notices and issued total face value of those notices resulting from mobile speed camera deployments on motorways since NZTA took over safety camera operations.***

NZTA does not hold information classified by the category of "motorway" for mobile safety camera deployments or resulting infringement notices. Instead, our records are organised by local road, state highway, and specific location.

To answer this part of your request, NZTA would need to identify which recorded locations meet the definition of a "motorway" and then create a new dataset by extracting and compiling that information across multiple records. This would involve making judgements about classification and generating information that is not currently held by the Agency.

Under the Act, agencies are not required to create new information in order to respond to a request. Accordingly, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(g) of the Act, on the basis that the information requested is not held by NZTA and would need to be created in order to respond.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold and refuse parts of this request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

In line with NZTA policy, this response will soon be published on our website, with personal information removed.

If you would like to discuss this reply with NZTA, please contact Ministerial Services by email to [official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jackie Smith', is positioned above the printed name.

**Jackie Smith**  
Manager Ministerial Services