



Ref: AFS 16/3392/4

10 January 2017

Cody C

C/- fyi-request-5101-87759fce@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Cody C

Re: Request for Information

I write in reply to your Official Information request dated 15 December 2016 received by email seeking information regarding cellphone surveillance equipment costs. You sought information on the following:

1. I am requesting the total amount spent on cellphone surveillance equipment in the last 12 months in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982.

Police undertake thousands of serious crime investigations each year that utilise a range of surveillance methodologies, techniques, equipment and people. These would support cases such as homicide, robberies, on-line exploitation of children, drug dealing and matters of national security to name but a few.

It is important that police on behalf of the community protect their methods as much as possible to ensure that criminals do not use publicly released information to hinder police investigations. Providing criminals with information as to the extent of our capabilities or capacity would only harm the community and the public interest.

Therefore, your request is refused pursuant to section 6(c) of the Official Information Act 1982 because the making available of that information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial.

If you are not satisfied with the response to your request, you have the right to refer the matter to the Office of the Ombudsmen.

Yours sincerely

Tim R Anderson, LLB (hons)
Detective Superintendent
National Manager
National Criminal Investigations Group