



1 April 2017

David Johnston (by email to: fyi-request-5248-fce55935@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Johnston

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your 22 January email and several follow-up emails, which request a copy of a request submitted to Police by M M Smith under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) via email using the www.fyi.org.nz platform, as well as a copy of Police's response to that request.

To begin with, it is a matter of regret that responses to some of your earlier emails guided you to Police's online information request portal, and were taken to imply that your initial request did not somehow constitute a valid OIA request. Any such implication is wrong, and the delay in responding substantively to your 22 January request is a matter of some disappointment.

More positively, having recently been alerted to the existence of your unanswered OIA request, I can swiftly offer you a response.

The original OIA request from Mr Smith is publicly available via the www.fyi.org.nz website at: <https://fyi.org.nz/request/5066-number-of-ram-raiding-incidents>

And Police's response to Mr Smith's OIA request is similarly available from the same website: <https://fyi.org.nz/request/5066/response/18270/attach/7/17%2003%2029%20OIA%20response%20to%20M%20M%20Smith.pdf>

Because the information you have requested is already publicly available, and indeed through the very same web-based platform which you have used to submit your OIA request to us, my expectation would be that you will be readily able to access the information you have sought. On this basis, I am in a strict sense refusing your 22 January OIA request, as provided for by section 18(d) of the OIA.

While I trust you find the navigational advice in this letter helpful, in closing it is appropriate to confirm that if you are dissatisfied with this response, you are able to complain to the Office of the Ombudsman, and seek an investigation and review of my handling of your OIA request. But, once again, apologies for the delay in responding substantively to your original request.

Respectfully

Mike Webb
National Manager
Assurance Group