

24 March 2017

James Littlejohn

fyi-request-5499-173e318f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear James

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 6 March 2017 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982:

Can you please provide data on the number of crashes, by crash type and year, which may have occurred due to drivers mistakenly believing they were entitled to drive on the wrong side of the road.

By way of example, dual carriageways, expressways and motorways allow drivers to drive in lanes indicated by white dashed lines. These roads can look very similar in signage to a standard road which is also marked with a white dashed centre line. The Waikato Expressway is such a road where this pattern exists especially sections where the two carriageways are not visible to each other.

Please exclude or otherwise summarise any incidents where incidents involved foreign drivers that normally drive on the right.

The NZ Transport Agency does not hold information on whether a crash occurred specifically due to a driver mistakenly believing that they were entitled to drive on the wrong side of the road. A message was sent to you through the FYI website on 10 March 2017 advising this information could not be provided and asking you to refine your request. The Transport Agency has not received a response from you.

The Transport Agency is able provide broader information on the number of crashes, by crash type and year, where a vehicle involved was on the wrong side of the road. However, this information does not confirm if a crash was due to mistaking which side of the road to drive on, only that a vehicle involved was on the wrong side of the road. Therefore, your request is declined under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act, as the information requested is not held.

If you wish, you can make a new request for information which the Transport Agency holds using the above explanation as guidance.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the NZ Transport Agency, please contact Holly Ludlow, Manager Statistical Analysis, by email to holly.ludlow@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on (04) 901 6781.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T Mellor', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tracy Mellor
Manager Analysis & Insights