

24 October 2017

Mark Hanna

fyi-request-6558-358f6bb0@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Hanna,

Official Information Act 1982 request

I refer to your email to Police dated 16 September 2017 where you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 for the following:

"1. An estimate of when the next TOR report(s) will be published, and the reporting periods they will cover.

1a. Copies of any current drafts of TOR report(s).

1b. If there are no current drafts of TOR report(s), or if no report is currently being created (as was reported in the March 2017 release), please give the reason why not.

2. TOR data for the 1 January - 30 June 2017 reporting period, in the same format as was released for the July - December 2016 reporting period.

2a. The number, and percentage, of the total set of TOR events that have completed the two-stage review process. For comparison, the March 2017 release said 11% of the events in that set of data had not completed this process, whereas it also said that this was the case for 0.2% of the events used to create the most recent biannual report.

2b. Any other relevant caveats regarding limitations of this dataset.

Please provide the TOR data in a machine-readable format such as CSV or XSLX."

You also requested that Police reconsider whether it was necessary to withhold all information previously withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act, in order to protect the privacy of natural persons.

On 25 September 2017, Police contacted you to clarify your request. It was agreed that Police would recode or redact the following fields which had previously been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act:

- Subject weapon
- TASER: Reason no warning
- Other Tactic
- Relevant factors (if time permitted)

I have considered your request in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982, and respond to each part below to meet your request.

1. An estimate of when the next TOR report(s) will be published, and the reporting periods they will cover

Police is currently working on producing two Annual Tactical Options Research Reports. The two reports will cover the 2015 and 2016 calendar years. Police has decided to no longer produce the Biannual reports. No set date has been finalised for publication as the draft reports still need to go through the internal review, consultation, and sign-off process, however we are aiming to publish the reports before the end of this year.

a. Copies of any current drafts of TOR report(s).

The draft reports have not been approved and are currently going through the internal review, consultation, and sign-off process. It is planned to make the finalised report publicly available by the end of the year. Therefore, the information requested has been withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982. This section of the Act applies in order to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between members of an organisation of officers and employees of any Department or organisation in the course of their duty.

b. If there are no current drafts of TOR report(s), or if no report is currently being created (as was reported in the March 2017 release), please give the reason why not

Not applicable.

2. TOR data for the 1 January - 30 June 2017 reporting period, in the same format as was released for the July - December 2016 reporting period.

The attached Excel spreadsheet is a data export of completed TORs for 1 January – 30 June 2017. This includes redacted or recoded fields of some fields previously withheld previously under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act as agreed.

a. The number, and percentage, of the total set of TOR events that have completed the two-stage review process. For comparison, the March 2017 release said 11% of the events in that set of data had not completed this process, whereas it also said that this was the case for 0.2% of the events used to create the most recent biannual report.

This data was exported on 25 September 2017. On that date, 7% of the TOR events which occurred during the requested period had not completed the two-stage review process.

b. Any other relevant caveats regarding limitations of this dataset.

The records provided in the attached spreadsheet are derived from the Tactical Options Reporting (TOR) database which records the reportable use of force by Police officers. Each row is a "TOR event" which is the reportable use of one or more tactical options, by one officer, against one individual. Multiple TOR events can occur at one incident. TOR data does not include events where the use of force is associated with a fatality as these events are instead the subject of internal and external investigations.

This data has not been cleaned or coded for analysis (except where stated) or to correct any errors. Some columns have been removed or altered (as outlined in the Notes tab of the spreadsheet), pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982, to protect the privacy of natural persons. For these reasons, Police takes no responsibility for the accuracy, correctness or completeness of this data. Furthermore, Police shall not be liable for any loss or damage arising directly or indirectly from reliance on the data or information presented in the spreadsheet.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely,


Superintendent Chris Scahill
National Manager: Response and Operations