

11 January 2019

Bob Sharp
fyi-request-9325-7d277fd4@requests.fyi.org.nz

NZT-3551

Dear Bob

Partial Transfer of request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your request of 30 December 2018 to the NZ Transport Agency requesting the following information:

'I am wondering if it is legal for one to ride a bike and/or a go-kart on the footpath, and by extension, the road for the go-kart. The website's definitions and regulations on low-powered vehicles is vague, and makes no mention of powered go-karts.

I have ridden my bicycle on the footpath for my own safety, especially on busier roads, and the police have had no interest in enforcing that I ride on the road even though I have a suspicion that it is unlawful. Is there data on people having been dealt to by police due to having ridden a bike on a footpath?

I believe that if it is unsafe for one to conduct themselves and their small vehicle on the road, then the footpath should be allowed to be used only if the user is being sensible; this makes sense to me and seems to be, thankfully, the way laws are enforced in NZ - for the safety of all. If I drive a go-kart slowly on a footpath, or close to the left side of a road with a harness and helmet, am I breaking laws, and if so, please update your websites to make this more obvious but also reconsider the rationality behind them.'

The following highlighted part of the information you have requested is more closely connected with the functions of the Police:

'I have ridden my bicycle on the footpath for my own safety, especially on busier roads, and the police have had no interest in enforcing that I ride on the road even though I have a suspicion that it is unlawful. Is there data on people having been dealt to by police due to having ridden a bike on a footpath?'

Accordingly, we are transferring this part of your request to the Police under section 14 of the Official Information Act 1982.

Therefore you will receive further correspondence on your request from the Police, the time limit for their response to you will be 20 working days from 11 January 2019, so you can expect a response from them on or before 8 February 2019.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leisa Coley', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Leisa Coley
Manager, Ministerial Services