



1 July 2019

James de Vere
fyi-request-9940-8fb192af@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr de Vere

Please accept my sincere apologies for the unacceptable delay in responding to your OIA request. Unfortunately we experienced difficulties receiving requests from FYI in March and your request was one of those affected. You requested:

*How many OIA requests were received through the FYI.org.nz portal
Of these, how many were answered and how many were refused (and for those refused, on what grounds)
Of those requests received, how many were responded to within in the statutory time limit of 20 days, in how many cases were extensions required, and in how many cases was the request not responded to and no extension sought.*

I would expect that the total would be substantially less than the total number of OIA requests received which was the subject of an FYI OIA request in 2018 that was refused by Police, and therefore able to be answered.

Basically, I am wanting to establish the level of compliance with the OIA requirements exhibited by Police as there appears to be an increasing frequency of responses claiming that responses will require considerable consultation and therefore requiring an extension of time - before the work has even begun.

NZ Police is not required to report on where requests come from. In order to provide the information you have requested we would need to manually review all our responses. As you will appreciate from the large volumes we deal with, this could not be done without diverting police staff from their normal operations for an indeterminate length of time. These questions are therefore declined under section 18(f) as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research. I have considered whether charging or extending the timeframe for responding to your request would help, as required by section 18A of the Act. However, I am of the view that, for the reasons set out above, neither of those options is practicable.

You may be aware that Police, along with other government agencies, is required to report to the State Services Commission (SSC) every six months on progress against OIA requests. This has been in place since the July 2017 - December 2017 period.

Police National Headquarters

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That information is publically available on SSC's website, and I have included that link here for you (www.ssc.govt.nz/official-information-statistics).

You may be interested to note that Police receives by far the highest number of Official Information Act requests of any Public Service Department or Statutory Crown Entity (21,225 OIA requests were completed for the six month period 1 July to 31 December 2018). The increase from the previous SSC reporting period is due largely to the rollout and more consistent use of Police's new Information Request Tool, the system used to manage responses to requests for information under the Official Information Act.

I would be very happy to talk through any of this with you. I can be contacted on 04 474 9427 during business hours. Again, please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you.

Yours sincerely



Lee Hodgson
National Manager: Ministerial Services
Police National Headquarters