



NEW ZEALAND
POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

26 June 2019

Mr Lance O'Riley
Fyi-request-9944-73aebbb5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr O'Riley

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:

Of all requests received under the Official Information Act since 2010 please provide a breakdown of the following listed by calendar year:

1. *Total number of requests received requesting information.*
2. *Total number of requests refused due to information not being held*
3. *Total number of requests refused for any other reason*
4. *Total numbers of requests withdrawn by the submitter*
5. *Total number of requests partially answered*
6. *Total number of requests answered within legislated time-frames*
7. *Total number of requests answered outside of legislated time-frames*
8. *5 most common reasons for refusing a request*
9. *Total number of times where a submitter has been asked to verify their identity for a request to be answered.*
10. *Total number of times where a submitter has provided information to verify their identity to get a request answered*
11. *Total number of times where a request has either been withdrawn or not followed up after being asked to verify their identity*
12. *Criteria used by the New Zealand Police Service to determine if they will request information regarding a submitter's identity.*

Questions 1, 6, and 7

Set out below is a table outlining the information for questions 1, 6 and 7. The table covers the years 2011/12 through to 2016/17.

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.

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).

Police National Headquarters

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Year	Number OIA requests received	Number OIA requests completed within legal timeframe	Number OIA requests not completed within legal time-frame
2016/17	11,257	10,283	1,244
2015/16	11,054	8,657	2,397
2014/15	10,980	8,607	2,373
2013/14	5,320	5,056	264
2012/13	8,904	8,653	251
2011/12	7,798	7,448	350

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.

Questions 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8

NZ Police is not required to report on how requests are responded to, the reasons for refusing a request or withholding material, or whether or not a request is withdrawn. In order to provide this 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.

Questions 9, 10, 11, and 12

It is NZ Police policy that a person making an OIA request does not need to verify their identity. As part of the triage process for assessing each OIA request, staff may, from time to time, decide they need to verify a requestor's identity.

We do not record this information and these questions are therefore declined under section 18(f) as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

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