



9 December 2019

Our Reference: IR-01-19-27258

Mark Hanna
fyi-request-11337-50e95698@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mark

I am writing in response to your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request of 01 October 2019 regarding the Tactical Option Report (TOR) data for the 2018 calendar year. Specifically you requested:

“...1. TOR data for the 1 January - 31 December 2018 reporting period, in the same format as was released for the July-December 2017 reporting period (ref IR-01-18-5190).

Please also explain any relevant caveats that should be kept in mind when analysing this information.

Please provide all information, including the response letter, in an accessible, searchable format. Please provide the TOR data in a machine-readable format such as CSV or XSLX. I'd be happy if the XSLX format that has been used to release this data previously is used again...

In each of the previous cases I mentioned in which TOR data has been released under the OIA, it was prepared for release prior to the publication of the TOR report based on that data. As the 2018 TOR report based on this data has already been prepared and is now undergoing internal review, I anticipate that there will now be significantly less work required for NZ Police to release the TOR data for this period.”

I have considered your request and my response is as follows.

Your previous request for this information estimated charges for the standard cleaning and coding procedures we conduct annually prior to analysis of TOR data. As you noted in your request this cleaning and coding has now been conducted for 2018 TOR data, so these charges no longer apply.

However, further cleaning of the data is required to remove any personal identifying information from the data set before it is safe to release publically pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Act. There are multiple fields which allow free text responses and these need

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to be checked manually to redact any personal or identifying information. Due to the sensitivity of the information involved, and the nature of the data file (an excel file with in excess of one million data cells) this process requires two staff (who comprise the entire Response and Operations Research and Evaluation (RORE) team) to work through the information to ensure reasonably required peer review to ensure everything relevant has been captured. I note that that in previous TOR data releases to you, the columns which enable free text were removed in their entirety, and this would reduce this part of the workload to less than an hour.

However, reports relating to ongoing internal and external investigations must be removed from the data pursuant to section 6(c) of the Act to ensure the maintenance of the law and right to a fair trial. I note this has not happened in responses to your previous requests. Information was sought from Police Professional Conduct about ongoing investigations relating to use of force. Details of the investigations were used to source and redact relevant records.

Time involved for cleaning and recoding of TOR Data.

Search and Retrieval (RORE) Research Editing Reasonably required peer review	25 hours
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Time involved for the identification and removal of current internal and external investigations:

Search and Retrieval Collation (PPC)	8 hours
Search and Retrieval/Editing (RORE)	5 hours

Given the amount of time it will take to provide this data to you, I have decided to implement a charge for your request as per the Ministry of Justice Guidelines (<https://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Publications/1982-Official-Information-Act-charging-guidelines.pdf>). These state that time spent by staff searching for relevant material, abstracting and collating, copying, transcribing and supervising access, and undertaking necessary review where the total time *is in excess of one hour*, may incur a charge. Using the Ministry of Justice guidelines (Justice Ministry OIAS charging guidelines) at \$76 per hour (with the third hour free) this would equate to \$2432.00. However, based on a previous response to you, I would reduce this charge to \$836.00 as previously advised.

I note that the 2018 Tactical Options Research report is now published and can be found on our [website](#). I would encourage you to review this document and, should you have any specific questions regarding use of force by police, request this information in accordance with the Act.

If you are not satisfied with my response to your request, you have a right under section 28(3) of the Act 1 to ask the Office of the Ombudsman to seek an investigation and review of my decision.

Yours sincerely



Superintendent Andrew Sissons
National Manager: Response and Operations

