

4 December 2020

Our Reference: IR-01-20-34818

Mark Hanna

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

Dear Mark

I am writing to you with regards to the response you received dated 9 December 2019 (IR-01-19-27258), for which you sought a review from the Office of the Ombudsman. After consultation and review, we have revised our response, and are providing you with the following Tactical Options Reporting (TOR) data spreadsheet.

The records provided in the attached spreadsheet are derived from the Tactical Options Reporting database, which records the reportable use of force by NZ Police. Each row is one '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. The definition of reportable uses of force can be viewed in the Annual Tactical Options Research Reports available on the Police website: <https://www.police.govt.nz/about-us/publication/tactical-options-research-reports>.

The data attached is for the 2018 calendar year. The data includes TORs which had completed the review process as of 16 May 2019, when data was extracted for the 2018 Annual Tactical Options Research Report. Efforts have been made to clean and correct any identified errors; however, inaccuracies may still exist. As such, the data may not be consistent with future reports.

Some columns have been removed from this dataset, in consultation with the Office of the Ombudsman. Please note that for some of the removed columns, the dataset retains an equivalent coded column that captures and categorises the original content without the risk of identification. The removed columns include:

- columns with information that either directly identified individuals or contained free text fields which may have directly identified individuals (section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982, to protect the privacy of natural persons);
- columns that were not identifying on their own, but in combination with data from other columns, increased the risk that the individuals involved may be identified. Removing these columns reduces the risk that individual persons can be identified, but this risk is not completely eliminated; NZ Police requests that you consider the risk to the privacy of individuals who have had force used against them when deciding how you will use and distribute the attached data (section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982, to protect the privacy of natural persons);

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- columns that include information that poses a risk to operational integrity and staff safety if it becomes public (section 6(2) of the Official Information Act 1982);
- columns which are blank or duplicate information from other columns.

Wholesale conversion of this data may lead to incorrect assumptions or misleading interpretation. To ensure data accuracy and integrity, NZ Police recommends that members of the public access use of force data directly via the OIA process and/or through the NZ Police Annual Tactical Options Report series, available at this link <<https://www.police.govt.nz/about-us/publication/tactical-options-research-reports>>.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nic Brown', with a small horizontal line at the end.

Inspector Nic Brown
Acting National Manager: Response & Operations

