



8 February 2020

Ref IR: 01-19-34246

David Morris-Bamber  
Fyi-request-11896-9c6f071f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Morris-Bamber

**Official Information Request**

I write in response to your Official Information Act request dated 15 December 2019 received via an online form, in which you asked the following question:

Can you take control of social media accounts and email accounts and change passwords so as the owner can no longer access them?

Police can access a social media/email account and change the password if the owner of those accounts gives Police permission to do so. This can be on a temporary or permanent basis. In these cases the owner would no longer be able to access the accounts.

This covers the circumstances under which Police may access and change passwords in an individual's social media/email accounts.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely



John Michael  
Detective Senior Sergeant