

1 December 2020

REF NUMBER: IR-01-20-32001

Grant Carroll  
[fyi-request-14017-207653d3@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-14017-207653d3@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Grant Carroll

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 22 October 2020 for New Zealand Police staffing information.

You requested:

1. *What are the Road Policing units in each police district in New Zealand?*

New Zealand Police takes your request to be in relation to sworn/dedicated Road Policing positions.

There are several Road Policing Units nationally and within the New Zealand Police Districts.

Road Policing Teams, or District Highway Patrol units, patrol rural roads and state highways and operate in each Police district, with the exception of Auckland City District.

Area Strategic Traffic Units patrol both urban and rural roads within each Police area.

Impairment Prevention Teams focus on alcohol and other drug-involved driving behaviour and are district based.

The Northern Impairment Prevention Team provides coverage across Waitemata, Auckland City and Counties Manakau Districts. This group is based at the Auckland Harbour Bridge, along with the Auckland Motorway Unit which is responsible for patrolling the Auckland motorway network.

Each district also has its own Serious Crash Unit that investigates fatal and serious injury crashes.

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Team provides enforcement and prevention activity specific to heavy motor vehicles and commercial drivers. This group is a national resource and staff report to Police National Headquarters rather than to local districts.

While not a part of a dedicated Road Policing Unit, staff based at smaller rural stations are expected to devote up to 20% of their time to road policing activity. Other front line

#### **Police National Headquarters**

180 Molesworth Street. PO Box 3017, Wellington 6140, New Zealand.  
Telephone: 04 474 9499. Fax: 04 498 7400. [www.police.govt.nz](http://www.police.govt.nz)

staff, including public safety team officers, also have a road policing allocation that varies by workgroup type.

2. *Where is each Road Policing unit based in each police district in New Zealand?*

Road Policing staff can be based in any Police Station in New Zealand depending on district need. However, the Northern Impairment Prevention Team, the Auckland Motorways Unit and the Waitemata/Auckland City Serious Crash Unit are based at the Auckland Harbour Bridge complex.

3. *What are the numbers of staff allocated to each Road Policing unit in each police district in New Zealand?*

The requested information can be found in Table One attached. Please note that this list is for each District as at 2 November 2020. Allocations can change at any time according to District requirements.

4. *How many positions are currently vacant or not filled in each Road Policing unit in each police district in New Zealand?*

The requested information can be found in Table Two attached. This includes the number of Road Policing positions in each District that are not filled, as at 2 November 2020.

It is not possible to ascertain which specific unit a vacancy relates to. This is because staff routinely rotate in and out of different units and it is a district-specific decision which team staff are deployed to, based on unique district requirements.

This part of your request has been refused pursuant to section 18(g)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982 in that the information requested is not held by the department or venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department (for itself and for a departmental agency hosted by it or an interdepartmental executive board serviced by it) or interdepartmental venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority.

You have the right, under section 28 (3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely



**Acting Superintendent Gini Welch**  
National Manager  
National Road Policing Centre

**Table One: Sworn/Dedicated Road Policing Unit staff allocations broken down by District, as at 2 November 2020.**

District	Strategic Traffic	Highway Patrol	Impairment Prevention	Serious Crash	Management/ Admin	Total Road Policing Staff
Northland	12	18	14	3	1	48
Waitemata	65	62	35	10	1	173
Auckland City	47	0	0	0	1	48
Counties Manukau	37	10	0	9	1	57
Waikato	34	32	27	5	1	99
Bay of Plenty	60	12	13	7	1	93
Eastern	26	16	7	3	1	53
Central	30	40	14	5	1	90
Wellington	50	15	12	4	1	82
Tasman	19	13	7	2	1	42
Canterbury	42	32	10	5	1	90
Southern*	59	0	0*	3	1	63

\*Southern District is about to commence a six-month trial of three Impairment Prevention Teams which will include an additional 14 staff.

**Table Two: Vacant Sworn/Dedicated Road Policing positions broken down by District, as at 2 November 2020**

District	Vacancies
Northland	2
Waitemata	0
Auckland City	0
Counties Manukau	0
Waikato	0
Bay of Plenty	0
Eastern	0
Central	2
Wellington	1
Tasman	3
Canterbury	0
Southern	0