



18 DEC 2020

Mark Allen

By email: [fyi-request-14178-7bbee0c1@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-14178-7bbee0c1@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Ref: PMO 2020-199

Dear Mark Allen

## Official Information Act request relating to Intelligence Warrants

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 20 November 2020. I am responding on the Prime Minister's behalf as my duties involve responding to requests made under the Act to the Prime Minister. You requested:

*"Did you sign off on the extension (or renewal) of the GCSB's warrant to spy on President Trump?"*

Under the Intelligence and Security Act 2017, the responsibility for issuing intelligence warrants permitting the collection of information about foreigners rests with Hon Andrew Little, as the Minister Responsible for the GCSB. The Prime Minister has therefore not authorised the warrant described in your request; nor is she legally able to do so.

If you would like to ask Minister Little if such a warrant has been granted regarding President Trump, I would encourage you to email Minister Little: [a.little@ministers.govt.nz](mailto:a.little@ministers.govt.nz).

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Raj Nahna'.

Raj Nahna  
Chief of Staff