



Ref: IR-01-20-37857

14 December 2020

Paul Waimania  
[Fyi-request-14284-b8162bdd@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:Fyi-request-14284-b8162bdd@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Paul

**Re: Official Information Act Request re Police Informants**

I refer to your Official Information Act request of 12 December 2020 received via email, in which you sought information on the following:

1. *The number of paid informants in New Zealand*
2. *The number of paid police informants living/lived in Rotorua*
3. *How much has been spent on Police informants from*
  - a. *Rotorua in the last 10 years*
  - b. *The Bay Of plenty in the last 10 years*
  - c. *New Zealand in the last 10 years.*

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

Information relating to Police informants is sensitive police information. Providing the public with our sensitive information would arm criminals with information about our methodologies and how we work in this field. They would use this to reduce our capability to solve serious crime.

Police only release national 'year to date' amounts paid to informers but do not release District specific figures, as to do so would indicate to criminals the level of police activity in this area

Therefore in respect of questions numbered 1- 3 (a) and (b) your request is refused pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Official Information Act as the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law including the prevention, investigation and detection of offences and the right to a fair trial.

In relation to question 3( c ) the total amounts paid to informants for the past 10 years is :

Year	Amount paid
2010/11	343,057
2011/12	416,114
2012/13	295,336
2013/14	301,772
2014/15	207,159
2015/16	156,362
2016/17	136,502
2017/18	92,543
2018/19	70,714
2019/20	175,100

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 Mackie  
Detective Inspector  
National Criminal Investigations Group  
Police National Headquarters