

8 November 2021

Ref: IR-01-21-27538

Ms Amy S Van Wey Lovatt
fyi-request-16700-bd378d2d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Amy

On the 10 September 2021 you sent an email request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) for specific information relating to complaints to Police.

An extension to 29 October 2021 was notified to you due to the amount of data that was required to be reviewed.

My response to each part of your request can be found below.

(1) The number of calls, written submission, or complaints in person have the NZ Police received in each of the last 5 years.

Police do not collate complaints in a way that we would be able to identify whether the complainant wrote, called or came in person to lay the complaint.

It would require substantial resource and time to open every complaint to enable Police to provide this response. Therefore I must refuse this part of your request under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

(2) The number of calls, written submissions or complaints in person which the NZ Police have refused the complainant a police case number, for each of the last 5 years.

Police does not record this type of information, therefore this part of your request is refused under section 18(g) of the OIA, as the information requested is not held.

(3) For each of the last 5 years, the number of calls, written submission, or complaints in person in which the NZ Police have responded to say they have reviewed the evidence and could not determine the name of the offender (or words to that effect), when either the name of the offender or a photo or address is given and is in the case file.

(4) For each of the last 5 years, the number of calls, written submission, or complaints in person in which the NZ Police have responded that the matter was not in the jurisdiction of the NZ Police even when the act was an offence under either the Crimes Act or the Summary Offence Act.

(5) For each of the last 5 years, the number of individuals that NZ Police have linked to offences in which there was no warning, no arrest made,

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no charges brought and no opportunity to exercise their rights to natural justice. (I know of at least one: Case #190830/2289).

(6) For each of the last 5 years, the number of individuals the NZ Police have detained, arrested, and searched, without giving the reason before the fact. (I know of at least 4 incidents, not counting those that went to the courts.)

(7) For each of the last 5 years, the number of individual the NZ Police have brought before the District Court and withdrew the case, and the top 3 reasons for it.

(8) For each of the last 5 years, the number of individuals the NZ Police have arrested and charged, and have offered community service if the person plead guilty. Please separate by gender and age groups of 10 years.

(9) For each of the last 5 years, the number of individuals the NZ Police have detained, arrested or charged, and were not provided legal council before being released or before the first date of court appearance.

This part of your request is refused pursuant to section 18(f) of the OIA as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation and research.

Once again, I apologise for the delay in responding to your request.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Guthrie', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Superintendent Jason Guthrie
Director: Integrity and Conduct
Police National Headquarters