

1 October 2021

IR-01-21-29084

Sebastian

Email: [fyi-request-16912-f2ccf7f3@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-16912-f2ccf7f3@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Sebastian

### ***Request for information***

Thank you for your request dated 28 September 2021 referencing a document published by the DPMC website in March 2021.

You quoted the below extract from the document.

*“Police is also undertaking an internal awareness programme to assist frontline to recognise symbology and imagery associated with XRW ideologies.”*

You requested:

*“copies of all materials produced by police for this awareness programme, including all training and operational materials, frontline intelligence reports etc.”*

Your request has been considered in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) and I have provided the following response.

In January 2021 Police published a short video introducing symbology. Its aim was to enable police employees to recognise and explore unfamiliar symbols and to apply context to them when considering their relevance to any ideology.


This was supported by a PDF document which provided examples of symbols known to be associated with various ideologies both internationally and domestically. Much of this information was obtained from publicly available online websites.

Police believes that disclosing the video and supporting documentation, as a collection of symbols and imagery made by Police to inform staff, would allow people to modify their use of them or other behaviours in order avoid detection or assessment by security agencies. Police does not consider it in the public interest to disclose the collection of documents because this information could be adopted by or otherwise encourage some people to adopt the violent extremist beliefs underpinning the symbols and imagery.

Therefore further details regarding the content of these resources are withheld under section 6(c) of the OIA as the making available of this information is likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law including the prevention, investigation and detection of offences and the right to a fair trial.

### **Police National Headquarters**

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If you are not satisfied with my response to your request, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to seek an investigation and review of my decision.

Yours sincerely,

F. de Bes

Fleur de Bes  
Inspector  
New Zealand Police