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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 9 November 2021 4:50 PM  
**To:** 'Mitchell Alexander'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: DG Interview request Newshub

Kia ora Mitchell

Thanks for getting in touch and apologies for not getting back to you earlier.

We are declining the interview request with the Director-General.

We would add that the Terrorism Threat Environment report you were provided in response to your OIA request is a year old, and was based on the information and intelligence available at that time.

Since then the Combined Threat Assessment Group (CTAG) has continued to assess the impact of Covid-19 as New Zealand's response to the pandemic has evolved, also taking into account overseas events and trends including an increase in extreme anti-government rhetoric.

A key focus of the NZSIS is detecting and investigating violent extremism regardless of ideology. Our legislation makes it clear that protest action does not of itself justify any action by the NZSIS.

We work closely with partner agencies to identify and understand potential instances of Politically Motivated Violent Extremism (PMVE).

Thanks

Communications Team  
New Zealand Intelligence Community

**From:** Mitchell Alexander <mitchell\_alexander@discovery.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 9 November 2021 3:50 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: DG Interview request Newshub

Hi there,

Just following up on this, we will be looking to do the story tomorrow.

Is there a time in the morning that would suit? I think it's really important to hear the DG's perspective on this - particularly with what we've seen today.

Feel free to give me a call to discuss.

Many thanks,  
Mitchell

On Tue, 9 Nov 2021 at 10:05 AM, Mitchell Alexander <[mitchell\\_alexander@discovery.com](mailto:mitchell_alexander@discovery.com)> wrote:  
Kia Ora,

I hope you're having a good week.

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Would it be possible please for an on camera interview with the Director General in relation to the impact Covid-19 is having on our national security?

As you're aware, I received an OIA response from the NZSIS in relation to this and would want to cover what is discussed in that.

I'm looking to do this story over the next couple of days so can you please let me know if this will be possible as soon as you can.

Feel free to give me a buzz to discuss further s9(2)(a)

Many thanks,  
Mitchell

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MITCHELL ALEXANDER / REPORTER

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MITCHELL ALEXANDER / REPORTER

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Monday, 27 September 2021 1:47 PM  
**To:** 'Mitchell Alexander'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: NZSIS DG Interview request - Newshub

Hey there Mitchell,

Unfortunately Rebecca has declined this one. Apologies for not getting back to you – and indeed, I blame the very abrupt COVID curveball.

I trust all is well your side.

Best regards,

**s6(a)**

NZIC Communication Team

**From:** Mitchell Alexander <mitchell\_alexander@discovery.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, 27 September 2021 12:23 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: NZSIS DG Interview request - Newshub

Hi **s6(a)**,

I hope you had a good weekend.

Just following up on this request, unfortunately Covid interrupted last time!

Would Rebecca be available for an on-camera interview about this? Is there a time that suits her this week or next?

Feel free to give me a call to discuss further - **s9(2)(a)**.

Many thanks,  
Mitchell

On Fri, Aug 13, 2021 at 4:15 PM Mitchell Alexander <[mitchell\\_alexander@discovery.com](mailto:mitchell_alexander@discovery.com)> wrote:

Great thanks **s6(a)** you too.

On Fri, Aug 13, 2021 at 3:31 PM Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)> wrote:

Hey there Mitchell – thanks for getting in touch. Just letting you know this has been picked up – and we'll probably be back in touch on Monday.

Cheers and have a good weekend,

**s6(a)**

From: Mitchell Alexander <[mitchell\\_alexander@discovery.com](mailto:mitchell_alexander@discovery.com)>  
Sent: Friday, 13 August 2021 1:50 PM  
To: Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)>  
Subject: NZSIS DG Interview request - Newshub

Hi there,

I hope you are having a good week.

Would it be possible please to conduct an on-camera interview with the Director-General in relation to the NZSIS' work on engagement with the public?

I'm keen to do a story about its work to be more inclusive as an agency and being more approachable with the public.

As you're aware I received an OIA from the Minister about the NZSIS' work on public engagement.

The key areas I'd like to cover are the establishment of a Muslim Reference Group and the Community Talent Outreach and Engagement Strategy. Specifically, the work around recruiting more women, ethnic minority candidates, disabled and neuro-diverse talent. I'd also like to hear if there are any other initiatives in the pipeline too.

I think this is an important story to tell, and it would help inform the public about what work is underway in this space.

In terms of timing, does next Wednesday morning work? If not, is there a day next week that would suit Rebecca? The interview itself would be no more than 10 minutes.

Feel free to give me a call to discuss this further s9(2)(a) .

Many thanks, Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Mitchell

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MITCHELL ALEXANDER / REPORTER

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Friday, 3 September 2021 8:49 PM  
**To:** 'Nancy Price-Milne'; Media  
**Cc:** Hannah Brown; Simon Shepherd; Finn Hogan  
**Subject:** RE: Newshub Nation interview request

Good evening Hannah

Thanks for getting in touch.

NZ Police are the lead agency regarding today's attack therefore we will decline your request.

Kind regards

Communications Team  
New Zealand Intelligence Community

**From:** Nancy Price-Milne <nancy\_price-milne@discovery.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 3 September 2021 7:47 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Hannah Brown <hannah\_brown@discovery.com>; Simon Shepherd <simon\_shepherd@discovery.com>; Finn Hogan <finn\_hogan@discovery.com>  
**Subject:** Newshub Nation interview request

Good evening,

Is Director-general Kitteridge available for interview with Newshub Nation tomorrow morning, about the terror attack carried out at an Auckland supermarket this afternoon, and whether the alleged perpetrator was known to authorities beforehand?

If she is available this would be live at 9.30am tomorrow morning, and could be either via Zoom, or from Parliament, or we could look at sending a camera to her location.

Please "reply all" on whether any of these options will be possible,

Best,  
Nancy

NANCY PRICE-MILNE (NEE DAVIES)

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Saturday, 4 September 2021 5:53 PM  
**To:** 'David Fisher'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: Good morning - New Lynn

Hi David

Several apologies about the timeframe for this response – a long day.

See below.

Cheers

**s6(a)**

### **Response - attribute to a spokesperson for the NZSIS**

The Prime Minister has acknowledged the involvement of the NZSIS in this case.

Our only comment at this time is that the mission of the NZSIS is to keep New Zealand and New Zealanders safe and secure and our staff work tirelessly to achieve this.

We work very closely with Police in all of our counter-terrorism work.

We will continue to provide support to Police in the aftermath of this shocking attack.

**END**

**From:** David Fisher <David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Saturday, 4 September 2021 8:13 AM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Good morning - New Lynn

Hi there,

I'm writing in relation to the New Lynn attack yesterday.

I would like to know if the individual who carried out the attack was on the "watch list", as I understand to be the case.

I would also like to know what action the NZIC is taking following the attack in relation to others on the list, who may be inspired/prompted by the actions yesterday.

Could you please let me know as soon as possible?

Also, is the Director-General of the Service available for an interview today on managing threats and those who pose a threat? It would provide an opportunity to put before the public the work being done to enhance public safety.

Thanks,

David Fisher  
NZ Herald

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Thursday, 9 September 2021 12:32 PM  
**To:** 'David Fisher'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: NZ Herald - query/OIA

Thanks David

I'll pass your request and clarification through to our OIA team.

In terms of the NZSIS role I'll highlight the below comment made by the Deputy PM at the 1pm briefing last Sunday.

Otherwise we'll be in touch about your OIA.

Cheers

**s6(a)**

"..the SIS have also played a key role in identifying and investigating this terrorist. Often, the SIS can't talk about its operational work for security reasons, but, in this case, it is possible to disclose its role in conducting a longstanding counterterrorism investigation into the deceased attacker from its outset to its conclusion. The New Zealand SIS's powers are complementary to those of the Police and, while we can't disclose the exact nature of their role, they have played an important and valuable role, committing significant resources over a long period of time to help New Zealanders stay safe."

**From:** David Fisher <David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 9 September 2021 12:26 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Fw: NZ Herald - query/OIA

Hi there,

The clarify the third point in the request below, it should read as follows:

- copies of all information relating to Samsudeen provided by the Director General to the Minister for the NZSIS or the Minister of National Security from 2015.

Thank you.

---

**From:** David Fisher  
**Sent:** Thursday, 9 September 2021 11:52 AM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** NZ Herald - query/OIA

Morena,

In relation to Samsudeen, is the IC intending to release information relating to the National Security checks made in 2011 and 2014, or any account of its activities in relation to Samsudeen as other agencies have done after the incident last Friday?

If there are no current plans, could the NZSIS please - through the OIA - provide the following:

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- copies of all information relating to the National Security checks carried out in 2011 (student visa) and 2014 (residency);
- copies of all reports to the Director General regarding Mr Samsudeen from 2015 onwards;
- copies of all information provided by the Director General to the Minister for the NZSIS or the Minister of National Security from 2015.

In relation to the National Security checks, there is precedent with similar information relating to Kim Dotcom being released by the Service. In relation to all sets of material sought, it would be expected (other than section 6 exceptions) that the public interest test would weigh heavily towards release.

Thank you,

David Fisher  
NZ Herald  
021347154

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 November 2021 1:11 PM  
**To:** 'David Fisher'  
**Subject:** RE: Threat level

Hey David – that's a missed call from us – I'll try you again in 5.

**s6(a)**

**From:** David Fisher <David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 November 2021 12:49 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** OIA Privacy <oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: Threat level

Hi again,

I've since seen the February threat assessment released in August so seeking advisories subsequent to that.

Thanks,

David

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**From:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 12:25 PM  
**To:** David Fisher  
**Cc:** OIA Privacy  
**Subject:** RE: Threat level

Kia ora David,

Thank you for getting in touch. I have passed your email onto our OIA team, who will be able to assist with your query.

Ngā mihi

NZIC Communications Team

**From:** David Fisher <David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 November 2021 11:11 AM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Threat level

Hi there,

I'm keen to know whether CTAG has provided advice beyond that described in the OIA response below in reference to our current threat level and where threats may originate.

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 November 2021 4:32 PM  
**To:** 'David Fisher'; OIA Privacy  
**Cc:** Media  
**Subject:** RE: Threat level

Hi there David – just noting the CTAG reports the OIA folks sent through are based on the information and intelligence available at that time. Below are some additional lines, attributable to a NZSIS spokesperson, if required:

The Combined Threat Assessment Group (CTAG) has continued to assess the impact of Covid-19 as New Zealand's response to the pandemic has evolved. Its assessment takes into account overseas events and trends, which has included an increase in extreme anti-authority rhetoric.

The role of the NZSIS is to detect and investigate violent extremism regardless of the ideology behind it.

Our legislation makes it clear that protest action does not of itself justify any action by the NZSIS. We are specifically looking for those individuals with violent, extremist views who have both the capability and intent to carry out an attack, or support those that do.

Any information received by the NZSIS is carefully assessed to determine what further steps may be required. This may, for example, mean sharing information with partner agencies such as New Zealand Police.

We work closely with partner agencies to identify and understand potential instances of violent extremism.

It's important to note that the New Zealand National Terrorism Threat Level continues to be assessed as MEDIUM, meaning a terrorist attack is assessed as feasible and could well occur. The threat level is under constant evaluation.

**From:** David Fisher <David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 November 2021 3:35 PM  
**To:** OIA Privacy <oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: Threat level

Yes thank you, that's helpful.

It resolves the nagging feeling that I should just start over again with something coherent.

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**From:** OIA Privacy <oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 November 2021 3:27 PM  
**To:** David Fisher <David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz>

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Cc: Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
Subject: RE: Threat level

Hi David,

Are you happy with the proposed wording for your request?

All CTAG reporting published since February 2021 regarding COVID/Pandemic-related 'anti-establishment rhetoric' threat assessments?

It's helpful if we have a specific timeframe that you are interested in.

Thanks  
NZSIS OIA Team

From: Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
Sent: Tuesday, 16 November 2021 3:15 PM  
To: 'David Fisher' <David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz>; OIA Privacy <oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz>  
Cc: Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
Subject: RE: Threat level

Hey David – just checking – you are wanting, under the OIA, all subsequent CTAG reporting regarding COVID/Pandemic-related 'anti-establishment rhetoric threat' assessments?

Feel free to articulate it slightly better – otherwise the OIA folks will hit the go button.

**s6(a)**

From: David Fisher <David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz>  
Sent: Tuesday, 16 November 2021 2:18 PM  
To: OIA Privacy <oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz>  
Cc: Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
Subject: Re: Threat level

That's very helpful, thank you.

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From: OIA Privacy <oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz>  
Sent: Tuesday, 16 November 2021 12:44 PM  
To: David Fisher <David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz>  
Cc: Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
Subject: RE: Threat level

Kia ora David

Our media team will provide a response to your initial question, but we thought you may be interested in some documents we have released recently under the OIA that relate to your query.

I have attached copies of the following:

- Threat Assessment: Impact of COVID-19 on the New Zealand Threat Environment, issued 8 April 2020
- Threat Insight: The New Zealand Terrorism Threat Environment, issued 27 November 2020 (*in particular, see paragraphs 10, 11, 14, 22, 24, 39 and 46*)

- **RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982** (this is the redacted version of the document that was summarised in the response you attached). See *paragraphs 5 and 17.*

Thanks  
NZSIS OIA Team

**From:** David Fisher <[David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz](mailto:David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 November 2021 12:26 PM  
**To:** Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** OIA Privacy <[oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz](mailto:oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Re: Threat level

Not something possible to answer today then?

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**From:** Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 November 2021 12:19 PM  
**To:** David Fisher <[David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz](mailto:David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz)>  
**Cc:** OIA Privacy <[oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz](mailto:oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Threat level

Kia ora David,

Thank you for getting in touch. I have passed your email onto our OIA team, who will be able to assist with your query.

Ngā mihi

NZIC Communications Team

**From:** David Fisher <[David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz](mailto:David.Fisher@nzme.co.nz)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 November 2021 11:11 AM  
**To:** Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Threat level

Hi there,

I'm keen to know whether CTAG has provided advice beyond that described in the OIA response below in reference to our current threat level and where threats may originate.

<https://fyi.org.nz/request/15429/response/59470/attach/2/2021%2006%2022%20Harold%20OIA%20response.pdf>

I'm asking ahead of writing a piece about the intensification of protest movements that have sprung up around pandemic-related issues and how those movements are attracting some individuals who will pose an elevated risk amid the current rhetoric.

The advice above refers to March 15 and related matters. I wanted to know if CTAG had expanded its advice in line with what's outlined in the sentencesw above.

David Fisher  
NZ Herald

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 18 August 2021 2:30 PM  
**To:** 'marc.daalder@newsroom.co.nz'  
**Cc:** Media  
**Subject:** Spies: Covid-19 'grievances' could motivate terror attack

Kia ora Marc, we read your article this morning and saw you called NZSIS the New Zealand Secret Intelligence Service rather than Security Intelligence Service.

Are you able to correct that in the online version?

Ngā mihi

NZIC Communications Team

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 22 September 2021 4:58 PM  
**To:** 'Kurt Bayer'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: NZ Herald enquiry

Kia ora Kurt

Sorry but I don't think we can help you on this.

We're not aware of anyone who may have an overall number such as you are after, and that includes NZSIS.

And where do you draw the line? There are many privately owned CCTV networks belonging to businesses, private home owners etc.

One thought we had was that the Privacy Commissioner's office publishes guidance on using CCTV. Maybe they also have some data on CCTV numbers?

Sorry we can't help more.

Regards

**s6(a)**

Communications Team  
New Zealand Intelligence Community

**From:** Kurt Bayer <Kurt.Bayer@nzme.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 22 September 2021 3:53 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** NZ Herald enquiry

Kia ora,

Kurt Bayer, NZ Herald senior journalist here, with a query that I hope you may be able to assist with.

I'm trying to find out how many CCTV cameras there are in NZ... and as I'm firing off OIA requests to NZ Police, NZTA, councils etc. I wondered if in fact the NZSIS might just know? Or might be able to point me in the right direction?

Any help much appreciated, regards Kurt

KURT BAYER  
NZ HERALD SENIOR REPORTER

15 Midas Place, Middleton  
Christchurch 8024  
New Zealand

D: **s9(2)(a)** M: **[REDACTED]**



✉ [kurf.bayer@nzme.co.nz](mailto:kurf.bayer@nzme.co.nz)  
📧 @KurfBayerNZME

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Sunday, 5 September 2021 5:58 PM  
**To:** 'michael neilson'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: NZ Herald interview request

Hi Michael

Just confirming we have your interview request for Rebecca Kitteridge.

Be aware tomorrow is unlikely to be possible but we will discuss your request.

Kind regards

Communications Team  
New Zealand Intelligence Community

**From:** michael neilson <michael.neilson@nzme.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 5 September 2021 4:49 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** NZ Herald interview request

Kia ora,

My name is Michael Neilson I am a reporter at the NZ Herald.

Not for today as obviously there is very little time left, but we'd like to put in a request for an interview with Director-General of Security Rebecca Kitteridge about the case of Ahamed Aathil Mohamed Samsudeen.

If we could just lodge that and try to find some time this week, but sooner the better so tomorrow if possible, that would be most appreciated. We can very flexible timewise - happy to discuss.

Ngā mihi nui

Michael Neilson (he/him)  
The New Zealand Herald - Political Journalist  
M (s9(2)(a) [REDACTED])  
E [michael.neilson@nzme.co.nz](mailto:michael.neilson@nzme.co.nz)

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 November 2021 3:25 PM  
**To:** 'Ceinwen.Curtis@rnz.co.nz'  
**Cc:** Media  
**Subject:** RE: RNZ Lately with Karyn Hay request for information on alcohol spend

Hi there Ceinwen,

Thanks for getting in touch – this one definitely sits on the OIA side, and would take some time to turn around – which clearly does not fit with your timeframe. But, below are some lines that I hope provide you with some broader context for your piece on tonight's edition of *Lately*.

Nga mihi,

NZIC Communications Team

### **Attributable to a NZIC spokesperson, if required:**

The NZSIS and GCSB adhere to the guidelines set out by the Office of the Auditor General in regards to entertainment and hospitality expenditure, in particular the principle of 'moderate and conservative' expenditure.

There is a general expectation that the Agencies not allow the use of public money to purchase alcohol unless there is a clear justification. Expenditure on alcohol, for example for leaving drinks, would be met by staff themselves.

**From:** Ceinwen Curtis <Ceinwen.Curtis@rnz.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 15 November 2021 6:51 PM  
**To:** Elizabeth.Underhill@crownlaw.govt.nz; media@doc.govt.nz; media@corrections.govt.nz; media@dia.govt.nz; media@dpmc.govt.nz; amanda.forsey@ero.govt.nz; Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>; mediaqueries@ird.govt.nz; media@mch.govt.nz; chris.harrington@parliament.govt.nz; media@treasury.govt.nz; media@mfe.govt.nz; media@mwa.govt.nz; media@mbie.govt.nz; media@nzdf.mil.nz; media@moh.govt.nz; media@mfat.govt.nz; media@education.govt.nz; media@HUD.govt.nz; media@justice.govt.nz; comms@tpk.govt.nz; media@msd.govt.nz; m.mailbox@transport.govt.nz; j.brownlie@transport.govt.nz; communications@customs.govt.nz; media@ot.govt.nz; media@publicservice.govt.nz; henry.acland@sfo.govt.nz; communications@stats.govt.nz; media@pikeriverrecovery.govt.nz; media@treasury.govt.nz  
**Subject:** RNZ Lately with Karyn Hay request for information on alcohol spend

Tena koutou,

This is Ceinwen Curtis, one of Karyn Hay's producers on RNZ's late night news show, *Lately*.

Could you please send me the amount of the total spend on alcohol for your agency/ministry for the 20/21 financial year?

We're looking at the response to the 2008 election on giving up alcohol, especially the angle that it's very difficult to just give up – people pressure you to keep drinking.

We'll be talking to someone on the show tomorrow night about having given up and how it is the one drug people won't seem to tolerate abstinence from.

We'd like to add some perspective on how much is spent on alcohol, so we'd like to be able to quote the amount different Government departments currently spend on alcohol as a measure of how society relies on alcohol.

If it's possible, I'd also really like to see your agency's/ministry's policy on alcohol consumption during work hours/at work functions.

Ngā mihi nui

Ceinwen

Ceinwen Curtis | Producer/newsreader

RNZ | Level 2, 155 The Terrace | PO Box 123 | Wellington | New Zealand

DDI s9(2)(a) | Mobile s9(2)(a)

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## Released under the Official Information Act 1982

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Saturday, 4 September 2021 5:56 PM  
**To:** 'Katie Doyle'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: Extremism request

Hi Katie

Apologies it has taken so long to get back to you.

See below response.

Thanks

Communications Team  
New Zealand Intelligence Community

### **Response - attribute to a spokesperson for the NZSIS**

The Prime Minister has acknowledged the involvement of the NZSIS in this case.  
Our only comment at this time is that the mission of the NZSIS is to keep New Zealand and New Zealanders safe and secure and our staff work tirelessly to achieve this.  
We work very closely with Police in all of our counter-terrorism work.  
We will continue to provide support to Police in the aftermath of this shocking attack.

**END**

**From:** Katie Doyle <Katie.Doyle@rnz.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Saturday, 4 September 2021 10:49 AM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Extremism request

Hello,

Katie Doyle here from Radio New Zealand.

I am emailing because I was hoping to get some information regarding extremists under surveillance in New Zealand.

I am keen to know how many people in New Zealand are under surveillance due to extremist ideology, and how many are believed to be inspired by Isis.

I would also like to know what other ideologies/ extremist groups may be an influence on those being surveilled (i.e. white supremacy, the KKK etc.)

Best,

**Katie Doyle** | Youth Affairs Reporter  
Radio New Zealand House | Level 3 | 171 Hobson Street | Auckland  
PO Box 123 | Wellington | New Zealand | 6140 | [www.rnz.co.nz](http://www.rnz.co.nz)  
DDI: (s9(2)(a))  
Mobile: (s9(2)(a))

## Released under the Official Information Act 1982

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 September 2021 3:56 PM  
**To:** 'Katie Scotcher'  
**Subject:** RE: Vaccine roll-out

Kia ora Katie,

Please find a response below, attributable to a NZ Intelligence Community spokesperson:

The Directors General of the security and intelligence agencies are strongly encouraging all staff who can be vaccinated, to be vaccinated in accordance with Public Service Commission expectations.

This is a message that has been repeated in recent weeks and it will continue to be reiterated to staff. Being vaccinated protects our staff, the people they work with and the people they serve.

Messages to staff include supporting being vaccinated during work hours, if they choose to do so. The Directors General have also spoken of their own experiences of being vaccinated to model their expectations, in accordance with PSC expectations, that all staff who can be vaccinated, will be vaccinated.

We are not keeping track of how many staff have been vaccinated. We are strongly advising staff to be vaccinated, and we will continue to work through and update our approach regarding PSC expectations, including adopting any further advice from PSC.

Nga mihi,

**s6(a)**

NZIC Communications

**From:** Katie Scotcher <Katie.Scotcher@rnz.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 13 September 2021 11:25 AM  
**Subject:** Vaccine roll-out

Kia ora,

I'm working on a story about the vaccination requirements employers in the public sector have put in place - keen to know what vaccine requirements you've introduced. We're asking every public sector agency.

Can you please provide a copy of the guidance you've sent to staff? Also – are you keeping track of how many staff have been vaccinated?

Give me a ring if you need.

Cheers

Katie Scotcher – Political reporter

**s9(2)(a)**

@katiescotcher

[katie.scotcher@radionz.co.nz](mailto:katie.scotcher@radionz.co.nz)

[www.radionz.co.nz](http://www.radionz.co.nz)

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## Released under the Official Information Act 1982

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 September 2021 4:55 PM  
**To:** 'Katie Todd'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: Coordinated review - LynnMall attack

Kia ora Katie

A response for you is below.

Please note our comment is embargoed until the embargo lifts on the announcement of the coordinated review.

Thanks

Communications Team  
New Zealand Intelligence Community

**Response to RNZ - attribute to a NZSIS spokesperson:**

The NZSIS welcomes the coordinated review into the attack at a New Lynn supermarket on 3 September 2021.

The Inspector General of Intelligence and Security (IGIS) will conduct the review in relation to matters involving the NZSIS.

The independent oversight of the IGIS is vital to the work of the NZSIS, and we will provide all support required for the review.

**END**

**From:** Katie Todd <Katie.Todd@rnz.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 September 2021 3:55 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Coordinated review - LynnMall attack

Kia ora,

At 5pm (when embargo lifts) we'll be running a story about the coordinated review of the events leading to the LynnMall attack.

As you'll be aware, the actions of the NZSIS are part of this review.

Can we please get your comment/response? Any opportunities to speak directly to a spokesperson – on the phone - would be appreciated.

Kind regards,

Katie Todd

**Katie Todd | Reporter**  
Radio New Zealand News | 171 Hobson Street



## Released under the Official Information Act 1982

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 September 2021 12:37 PM  
**To:** Media; 'Sarah Robson'  
**Subject:** RE: Operation Rally/Samsudeen query

Hi Sarah – this was provided to you on the same day you came to us (see below) – did it not get through?

Nga mihi,

Communications Team  
New Zealand Intelligence Community

**From:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 6 September 2021 6:46 PM  
**To:** 'Sarah Robson' <Sarah.Robson@rnz.co.nz>; Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** RE: Operation Rally/Samsudeen query

Kia ora Sarah

Please see responses to your questions below in red.

Kind regards

Communications Team  
New Zealand Intelligence Community

**From:** Sarah Robson <Sarah.Robson@rnz.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 6 September 2021 3:49 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Operation Rally/Samsudeen query

Kia ora,

I have put this query into the police as well.

Does the SIS have any information about how Samsudeen was radicalised, in light of the comments made by his family members alleging he was radicalised by neighbours?

We reiterate the comments by the Deputy Prime Minister today that it was his online activities which brought him to the attention of NZSIS and Police.

Is there any comment the SIS can make about its involvement, since 2016, in the investigations and monitoring of Samsudeen?

We refer you to the comments made by the Deputy Prime Minister at yesterday's media update regarding the involvement of the NZSIS:

*"...the SIS have also played a key role in identifying and investigating this terrorist. Often, the SIS can't talk about its operational work for security reasons, but, in this case, it is possible to disclose its role in*

*conducting a longstanding counterterrorism investigation into the deceased attacker from its outset to its conclusion. The New Zealand CBS's powers are complementary to those of the Police and, while we can't disclose the exact nature of their role, they have played an important and valuable role, committing significant resources over a long period of time to help New Zealanders stay safe."*

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Many thanks,

Sarah

---

Sarah Robson | Senior Journalist  
RNZ | Level 3, 171 Hobson Street | PO Box 2209 | Auckland | New Zealand  
DDI: s9(2)(a) | Mobile: s9(2)(a)



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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Monday, 6 September 2021 6:46 PM  
**To:** 'Sarah Robson'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: Operation Rally/Samsudeen query

Kia ora Sarah

Please see responses to your questions below in red.

Kind regards

Communications Team  
New Zealand Intelligence Community

**From:** Sarah Robson <Sarah.Robson@rnz.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 6 September 2021 3:49 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Operation Rally/Samsudeen query

Kia ora,

I have put this query into the police as well.

Does the SIS have any information about how Samsudeen was radicalised, in light of the comments made by his family members alleging he was radicalised by neighbours?

We reiterate the comments by the Deputy Prime Minister today that it was his online activities which brought him to the attention of NZSIS and Police.

Is there any comment the SIS can make about its involvement, since 2016, in the investigations and monitoring of Samsudeen?

We refer you to the comments made by the Deputy Prime Minister at yesterday's media update regarding the involvement of the NZSIS:

*"...the SIS have also played a key role in identifying and investigating this terrorist. Often, the SIS can't talk about its operational work for security reasons, but, in this case, it is possible to disclose its role in conducting a longstanding counterterrorism investigation into the deceased attacker from its outset to its conclusion. The New Zealand SIS's powers are complementary to those of the Police and, while we can't disclose the exact nature of their role, they have played an important and valuable role, committing significant resources over a long period of time to help New Zealanders stay safe."*

Many thanks,

Sarah

---

Sarah Robson | Senior Journalist  
RNZ | Level 3, 171 Hobson Street | PO Box 2209 | Auckland | New Zealand

## Released under the Official Information Act 1982

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 20 October 2021 12:10 PM  
**To:** 'Benn Bathgate'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: Stuff query

Hi Benn – good to chat – as discussed, a link to a recent speech that covers some of the aspects you are interested in – I'll also have a look for any other published material that you may be interested in:

<https://www.nzsis.govt.nz/news/terrorism-challenges-the-dynamic-nature-of-the-terrorism-and-violent-extremism-risk/>

s6(a)

**From:** Benn Bathgate <benn.bathgate@stuff.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 20 October 2021 9:07 AM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: Stuff query

Hi s6(a)

That would be perfect, and thanks.

As mentioned, there's no massive rush on this as I'm constrained somewhat by the court process, but thought it wouldn't hurt to try and get some ducks in a row ahead of that process being finalised!

Regards,

Benn

On Tue, Oct 19, 2021 at 4:23 PM Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)> wrote:

Hi there Benn – thanks for getting in touch – we'll have a look and come back to you – it may be that what you are after already exists in published form somewhere – how about I give you a bell tomorrow?

s6(a)

NZIC Communications

**From:** Benn Bathgate <[benn.bathgate@stuff.co.nz](mailto:benn.bathgate@stuff.co.nz)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 October 2021 3:21 PM  
**To:** Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Stuff query

Afternoon,

Benn Bathgate from Stuff here, getting in touch to ask about the possibility of some comment from the SIS for a story I'm working on?

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To provide some brief background, I'm following a matter through the courts at present that tracks back to a gun threat made to the court in Rotorua. 6(c)

I'm aware of course that as the matter is before the courts no external comments can be used at present, but my plan is to put something together once that process has run its course 6(c)

To that end, if possible, some comment from the SIS would be most welcome.

It's rather early days for this (the trial is set for November 15) but thought it might be prudent to sound you out now on the possibility?

Kind regards,

Benn

--

Reporter

E [benn.bathgate@stuff.co.nz](mailto:benn.bathgate@stuff.co.nz) M s9(2)(a)

## Released under the Official Information Act 1982

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 25 August 2021 12:00 PM  
**To:** 'Kirsty Johnston'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: hate crimes OIA

Hi Kirsty

Confirming we have received your OIA.

NZIC Communications Team

**From:** Kirsty Johnston <kirsty.johnston@stuff.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 25 August 2021 11:46 AM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** hate crimes OIA

Hello

can I please request, under the OIA

- any communication between SIS and Netsafe; and the DIA; and police on the attacks on wahine maori and other women as described in this story <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/crime/300379571/we-cant-rely-on-the-police-mori-women-on-edge-after-escalating-threats>

-any communications or briefings or memos or reports to NZIC management/executive on such attacks; and/or the need for further cross-agency co-ordination regarding such attacks

-any briefings or communication to the minister for NZIC on such attacks,;and/or the need for further cross-agency co-ordination regarding such attacks

Thank you

Kirsty

--

**Kirsty Johnston**  
Journalist

E [kirsty.johnston@stuff.co.nz](mailto:kirsty.johnston@stuff.co.nz) | M **(s9(2)(a))** | T [kirsty\\_johnston](tel:kirsty_johnston) |  
Fairfax Media, Cider Building, 4 Williamson Avenue, Ponsonby, Auckland 1021, New Zealand

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## Released under the Official Information Act 1982

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 August 2021 3:35 PM  
**To:** 'Kirsty Johnston'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: wahine maori

Kia ora Kirsty, thanks for getting in touch.

Please find a response, below – attributable to a NZSIS spokesperson:

The New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS) is well aware that offensive, racist and hateful views are spread in our communities every day, including towards Māori.

The online environment, especially social media, makes this easier than ever before, and our role is to analyse and determine whether such online behavior reaches the threshold of posing a threat to national security.

We are specifically looking for those individuals with violent, extremist views who have both the capability and intent to carry out an attack, or support those that do.

Any information received by the NZSIS is carefully assessed to determine what further steps may be required. This may, for example, mean sharing information with partner agencies such as New Zealand Police.

The NZSIS fulfils its mission by investigating threats to New Zealand's national security in accordance with the Government's priorities. We collect and analyse intelligence to provide government decision makers with sound national security analysis.

We note that the Government has accepted in principle all the recommendations of the Royal Commission of Inquiry in the terrorist attacks on Christchurch mosques, including amending legislation to include hate motivated offences.

The NZSIS often works with Police, however threats being made against specific individuals is primarily a law enforcement matter and something the New Zealand Police would lead on.

Nga mihi,

**s6(a)**

NZIC Communications Team

**From:** Kirsty Johnston <kirsty.johnston@stuff.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 9 August 2021 3:06 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** wahine maori

Kia ora

This query is about recent threats by extremists against high profile wahine Maori, included but not limited to

**s9(2)(a)**

s9(2)(a)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

and the recent video calling for a race war against Maori <https://www.teaomaori.news/police-under-fire-over-slaughter-maori-youtube-video>.

Some of the alleged perpetrators are known ie. s9(2)(a) but there are others.

Can you please tell me - is there an SIS investigation and/or monitoring into these threats against women, and in particular, Maori women?

Has the SIS noticed an increase in this type of extremist activity in the past three months?

Is this type of activity something that the SIS would monitor?

This story will be published Wednesday so can you please reply by 4pm tomorrow.

Thank you

Kirsty

--  
**Kirsty Johnston**  
Journalist

E [kirstyj.johnston@stuff.co.nz](mailto:kirstyj.johnston@stuff.co.nz) | M [\(s9\(2\)\(a\)\)](tel:s9(2)(a)) | [kirsty.johnston](http://kirsty.johnston) |  
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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 September 2021 9:50 AM  
**To:** 'Laura Walters'  
**Cc:** Media  
**Subject:** RE: NZ cricket OIA

Kia ora Laura

Confirming that the NZIC have received your OIA request.

NZIC Communications Team

**From:** Laura Walters <laura.walters@stuff.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 September 2021 8:44 AM  
**To:** MEDIA <media@mfat.govt.nz>; PMOmedia <pmomedia@parliament.govt.nz>; DPMC Media [DPMC] <media@dPMC.govt.nz>; Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** NZ cricket OIA

Kia ora koutou,

Please find attached an OIA request relating to advice and communications regarding the safety/security of the NZ cricket team, and their travel to Pakistan.

If there are any issues, please feel free to contact me.

Ngā mihi nui,  
Laura.

--  
**Laura Walters** (she/her)  
Senior Writer, Wellington

M 0s9(2)(a)  
Stuff Ltd, Level 7, Spark Central, 42-52 Willis St, Wellington, New Zealand  
PO Box 2595, Wellington 6140

**stuff**

 Neighbourly

**THE DOMINION POST**

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# Released under the Official Information Act 1982

September 21, 2021

**Official Information Act Request**  
**Subject: Advice and assistance re NZ Cricket trip to Pakistan**

To whom, it may concern at DPMC, PMO, NZSIS and MFAT,

Under the Official Information Act 1982, I would like to request the following information:

- All correspondence and advice relating to the NZ cricket team's travel to Pakistan, including, but not limited to: briefings, evaluations/reports, emails, texts and instant messages.
- Please include advice provided before the trip, as well as that relating to the change in risk assessment, and the decision to leave Pakistan.

As the matter of the security of a national sports team is one of public interest, I ask that any fee be waived.

As you will see, I have addressed the same request to the government departments that were likely to be involved to make sure I cover all bases. If you need me to send these requests separately, please let me know.

In accordance with the Act, I expect to receive a response within 20 working days.

Any issues, you can email me, or call me on: +64 s9(2)(a), or WhatsApp on: +64 s9(2) s9(2).

Ngā mihi nui,  
Laura.

## Released under the Official Information Act 1982

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 September 2021 4:46 PM  
**To:** 'Laura Walters'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: Monitoring of Hindutva

Hi again Laura

We can't comment on specific allegations about Hindutva.

We can say however that the NZSIS takes seriously any information of national security concern which the public reports to us. This information is carefully assessed and investigated as required.

However the nature of our work means that it is usually not possible for us to report back to members of the public about the outcome of these investigations.

NZIC Communications Team

**From:** Laura Walters <laura.walters@stuff.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 September 2021 2:12 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: Monitoring of Hindutva

Kia ora,

Thanks for coming back to me. I imagine you're pretty firm on this, but given that since March 15 that the NZSIS has discussed areas of operational focus, I wonder if there is any chance of getting any further comments?

Rebecca Kitteridge said in March this year that NZSIS counter-terrorism effort is split approximately 50/50 between white identity motivated violent extremism and faith motivated violent extremism. The RCOI and public discussion following March 15 also saw a lot of public discussion about where operational focus was pre-March 15 and whether that was appropriate. I understand you need to be careful about this, but there is precedent for discussing operational focus to an extent.

And I really do want to get as much context as possible from the NZSIS given I am hearing from people in the Indian community that they have been raising issues with the NZSIS and Ministry of Ethnic Communities about this threat, but they feel little interest has been shown. One group said they spoke to an NZSIS representative at a hui in Feb about the issue; their number was taken, but they never received a call. And politicians are continuing to meet with Hindutva-affiliated groups in NZ, so questions have been raised around that literacy, and the SIS's role in educating politicians on the landscape (similar to issues with CCP-affiliated groups in the past).

Anyway, I understand if this is all you're able to say, but I just wanted to come back to you in case. Feel free to give me a call if it's easier to discuss over the phone. I'm on s9(2)(a)

Thanks,  
Laura.

On Mon, Sep 20, 2021 at 1:54 PM Media <media@nzic.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora Laura

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This response can be attributed to a spokesperson for the New Zealand intelligence agencies.

Response to Laura Walters/Stuff:

The intelligence agencies are aware that extremist views can involve a range of ideologies.

Our role is to investigate violent extremism, specifically individuals who have both the capability and intent to carry out an attack or support those that do.

However we have a longstanding approach of not discussing what may or may not be specific areas of operational focus.

END

NZIC Communications Team

**From:** Laura Walters <[laura.walters@stuff.co.nz](mailto:laura.walters@stuff.co.nz)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 17 September 2021 12:54 PM  
**To:** Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Monitoring of Hindutva

Kia ora,

I was wondering whether you'd be able to tell me if the NZ intelligence agencies are aware of the issue of Hindutva in New Zealand - ie. the right-wing Hindu nationalist political ideology born in India.

Is it something the NZSIS and GCSB is monitoring? If so, how long has it been on your radar? And what work is being done to better understand the threat of Hindutva?

If you could please come back to me by the end of the day on Monday, I'd really appreciate it.

Ngā mihi nui,

Laura.

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--

**Laura Walters (she/her)**  
Senior Writer, Wellington

M 09(2)(a)  
Stuff Ltd, Level 7, Spark Central, 42-52 Willis St, Wellington, New Zealand  
PO Box 2595, Wellington 6140

**stuff**



Neighbourly

**THE DOMINION POST**

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 7 September 2021 6:50 PM  
**To:** 'Laura Walters'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: Terrorism watchlist inquiry

Hi again Laura

A response for you is below.

Please attribute to a spokesperson for the NZSIS.

Thanks

NZIC Communications Team

### **Response to Laura Walters/Stuff:**

The NZSIS investigates all forms of violent extremism.

Extremist views can involve a range of ideologies and a spectrum of behaviours, but only a very small number demonstrate actual intent and capability to carry out an attack.

We will not get into specific details regarding numbers or rankings as to do so reveals information that may create national security risk.

In March this year the Director-General of Security Rebecca Kitteridge told Parliament's Intelligence and Security Committee that NZSIS counter-terrorism effort is split approximately 50/50 between white identity motivated violent extremism and faith motivated violent extremism.

**END**

**From:** Laura Walters <laura.walters@stuff.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 7 September 2021 5:00 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: Terrorism watchlist inquiry

Thanks for coming back to me. I've pushed my deadline out for this one, so if you could come back to me by 10am tomorrow, that'd be perfect.  
Thanks again.

On Tue, Sep 7, 2021 at 4:54 PM Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)> wrote:

Kia ora Laura

We will try to get you a response.

What time do you need to hear back from us? Aware it is getting late in the day already.

Thanks

From: Laura Walters <laura.walters@stuff.co.nz>  
Sent: Tuesday, 7 September 2021 3:19 PM  
To: Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
Subject: Terrorism watchlist inquiry

Kia ora,

Might be a longshot, but I was wondering whether you're able to say a) how many people are currently on NZ's terrorism watchlist (even ballpark); b) what the percentage split is in terms of their ideologies.

This is for an article I'm working on about programmes that focus on countering violent extremism - I just want to include a bit of the context re threats in NZ communities.

My deadline is the end of the day today.

Thanks!

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# RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 September 2021 12:51 PM  
**To:** 'Maxine Jacobs'  
**Subject:** RE: Pou Tiaki, Stuff: Māori Language Plans

Calling now!

**From:** Maxine Jacobs <maxine.jacobs@stuff.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 September 2021 12:48 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: Pou Tiaki, Stuff: Māori Language Plans

Sorry I missed it :) feel free to give me another go :)

On Wed, 15 Sep 2021 at 12:47 PM, Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)> wrote:

Hey there Maxine – apologies for taking a while to get back to you on this. That's a missed call from me on your mobile just then.

I was just keen to quick chat before I follow-up this request. Let me know when you are free and I can call you back.

Ngā mihi,

s6(a)

NZIC Communications

**From:** Maxine Jacobs <maxine.jacobs@stuff.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 13 September 2021 11:24 AM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Pou Tiaki, Stuff: Māori Language Plans

Tēnā koe e hoa mā,

Ko Māxone tōku ingoa, I'm a reporter for Stuff's Pou Tiaki department.



Kia pai te wiki o te reo Māori :)

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I'm emailing because I'm looking for information in regards to the Māori Language Plans that were to be developed by every public service by June 2021.

Is the Government Communications Security Bureau and New Zealand Security Intelligence Service subject to the language plans.

If so, what date did each register its language plan, and what commitment has each made to help normalise te reo Māori in the plans?


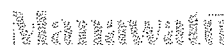
It would also be great to receive a copy of each service's language plans.

Feel free to call me if you need further details.

Ngā mihi,

Maxine Jacobs

E [maxine.jacobs@stuff.co.nz](mailto:maxine.jacobs@stuff.co.nz) | P (+64) s9(2)(a) | M (+64) s9(2)(a)  
51 The Square, Palmerston North, 4440, New Zealand  
PO Box 3, Palmerston North, 4440

**stuff**  Neighbourly  Manawatu Standard

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 October 2021 4:18 PM  
**To:** 'Nikki Macdonald'  
**Subject:** RE: OIA statistics

Hey there Nikki,

Yes, we do include OIAs completed within extension timeframes as being 'within the legislated timeframe', as per PSC guidance on stats reporting.

Nga mihi,

s6(a)

NZIC Communications

**From:** Nikki Macdonald <nikki.macdonald@stuff.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 October 2021 12:10 PM  
**Subject:** OIA statistics

Hi there

Can you please just confirm for me that, for both the NZSIS and GCSB, the OIA statistics reported to the Public Service Commission count extensions as being "within the legislated timeframe".

Thanks very much

Nikki

--

**Nikki Macdonald**  
Senior writer

E [nikki.macdonald@stuff.co.nz](mailto:nikki.macdonald@stuff.co.nz) | P (64) s9(2)(a) | M s9(2)(a)  
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## Released under the Official Information Act 1982

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Friday, 3 September 2021 7:12 PM  
**To:** 'thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz'  
**Subject:** FW: Anything coming from you tonight?

Hi Thomas

Police are the lead on this – we'll let you know if anything changes from our perspective.

Thanks  
NZIC Communications Team

**From:** Thomas Manch <[thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz](mailto:thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 3 September 2021 6:26 PM  
**To:** [s6\(a\)@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:s6(a)@nzic.govt.nz)  
**Subject:** Anything coming from you tonight?

--

### **Thomas Manch**

Political reporter - [Stuff](#) - [The Dominion Post](#)

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Press Gallery, Parliament Buildings room G-045

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Thursday, 18 November 2021 3:35 PM  
**To:** 'Thomas Manch'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: IGIS report

Hey Thomas – lines attributable to a NZSIS spokesperson, below:

The NZSIS carries out the vetting process to assess a candidate's suitability to work in roles throughout government and the private sector that are exposed to sensitive government information.

Throughout the course of a vetting process, candidates occasionally disclose low-level offending. In the case outlined in the IGIS annual report, a candidate disclosed offending of such a serious nature that we felt Police should be informed.

In this instance information was provided to Police. We proactively advised the IGIS and sought advice from the Solicitor-General around our ability to do so under s220 of the Act, as it was not specifically clear. We note the IGIS has stated that he expects s220 to come under scrutiny in the upcoming review of the Act.

Since the Act came into force, this is the only instance where the NZSIS has contacted Police with concerns of criminal offending from information obtained from the vetting process.

s6(a)

**From:** Thomas Manch <[thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz](mailto:thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 18 November 2021 2:50 PM  
**To:** Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Re: IGIS report

FYI - I'm also interested in the commentary from IGIS on the SIS multiplying its data holdings through "target discovery". If there's an explanation for what this commitment to target discovery is, and why this shift has occurred, that would be appreciated. Thanks

On Thu, Nov 18, 2021 at 2:13 PM Media <[media@nzic.govt.nz](mailto:media@nzic.govt.nz)> wrote:

Ahoy,

Let me know when you are back from the bridge run and I'll give you a bell.

s6(a)

**From:** Thomas Manch <[thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz](mailto:thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 18 November 2021 11:47 AM

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Thursday, 18 November 2021 3:04 PM  
**To:** 'Thomas Manch'; Media  
**Subject:** RE: IGIS report

There's pretty good background from the RCOI on this – which I think covers everything you are after: [10. Target discovery | Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Attack on Christchurch Mosques on 15 March 2019](#)

**From:** Thomas Manch <thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 18 November 2021 2:50 PM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: IGIS report

FYI - I'm also interested in the commentary from IGIS on the SIS multiplying its data holdings through "target discovery". If there's an explanation for what this commitment to target discovery is, and why this shift has occurred, that would be appreciated. Thanks

On Thu, Nov 18, 2021 at 2:13 PM Media <media@nzic.govt.nz> wrote:

Ahoy,

Let me know when you are back from the bridge run and I'll give you a bell.

s6(a)

**From:** Thomas Manch <thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 18 November 2021 11:47 AM  
**To:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: IGIS report

Hi s6(a)

I'm looking through the IGIS annual report and am interested in reporting on it, in particular the issues on page 4 and 5 of the report regarding the legal basis for GCSB for partner-collected data, and NZSIS disclosure and use of vetting information.

Does the GCSB and SIS have a response to the IGIS's comments in the annual report?

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Specifically, I'm interested to know:

- Why has the GCSB sought to no longer seek warrants for partner-collected data? (Noting the Crown Law agreement, and the caveat for data relating to NZers)
- Does this reduce the burden of scrutiny on the GCSB's activities with partner agencies?
- Will the GCSB commit to establishing a process that allows "this important area of Bureau activity is conducted within plain sight of the Government and my office", as the IGIS has suggested? What type of process allows for this?
- What response does the SIS have to the IGIS and Solicitor-General determining it would be improper for the SIS to share information with the police obtained under vetting, as appears to have been done in the instance recorded by the IGIS?
- Can the SIS confirm whether the information was in fact provided to police, and what was the outcome of this?
- Does the SIS accept that such a move has the potential to undermine trust in the vetting process?

Thanks

Thomas

--

### **Thomas Manch**

Political reporter - [Stuff](#) - [The Dominion Post](#)

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Friday, 6 August 2021 4:56 PM  
**To:** 'thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz'  
**Subject:** FW: Hooman Javaheri

Response below Thomas – apologies that took longer than anticipated.

We'll talk next week about Andrew H interview.

Have a good weekend.

Cheers

s6(a)

### Response to Thomas Manch/Stuff

#### Attribute to a spokesperson for the NZSIS

The NZSIS has a longstanding approach of not discussing specific individuals.

We can, however, say that the NZSIS provides information and assessments to support a range of New Zealand government agencies to assist in their decision making.

With regards to countering national security threats, such as countering the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the NZSIS provides information to Immigration New Zealand on individuals seeking visas, when requested.

The visa process is managed by Immigration New Zealand, and any decision to approve or withhold a visa is made by Immigration New Zealand, not the NZSIS.

We would like to be clear that NZSIS involvement in providing this information to Immigration New Zealand, and the assessments themselves, is not influenced by foreign government policy. It is provided in accordance with our own government priorities, legal framework and international legal obligations.

END

**From:** Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Friday, 6 August 2021 11:30 AM  
**To:** 'Thomas Manch' <thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz>  
**Subject:** RE: Hooman Javaheri

Hi Thomas

I forgot to send you an acknowledgment – apologies.

We'll get back to you with a response, noting your deadline.

Cheers

s6(a)

## Released under the Official Information Act 1982

From: Thomas Manch <thomas.manch@stuff.co.nz>

Sent: Friday, 6 August 2021 6:30 AM

To: s6(a) <[REDACTED]@nzic.govt.nz>; Media <media@nzic.govt.nz>

Subject: Hooman Javaheri

Hi s6(a)

As discussed late yesterday:

I have spoken with Hooman Javaheri and his lawyer, Alastair McClymont, about his prolonged application to get residency in New Zealand. Both Javaheri and McClymont are of the impression his residency has been held up due to concern he could return to Iran with his skills as a chemical engineer (he has expertise in waste management) and use it to create WMDs, or contribute to a nuclear programme. They say INZ has informed them the involvement of a "third party" means it can't be progressed - this is interpreted as being the SIS.

My questions are:

- What interest in this case does the SIS have, if any?
- Has the SIS been investigating Javaheri for possible WMD concern? Has it intervened in the immigration case?
- If so, why? Has information or direction from Five Eyes partners influenced this?
- When will it be resolved?
- Does the SIS intervene or provide information in immigration cases where there is such WMD concern?
- Does it remain the case that 12 people in NZ are being investigated under such circumstances, as was the case in 2019?

My deadline is 3pm.

Thanks  
Thomas

--

### Thomas Manch

Political reporter - [Stuff](#) - [The Dominion Post](#)

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