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1 April 2022

Harold

fyi-request-17659-c003ba6f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Harold

Official information request

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 22 November 2021 seeking emails between the NZSIS, eight media outlets and one individual.

The timeframe for replying to your request was extended to 9 February 2022 and a decision was provided to you on 8 February (but delivered on 11 February due to technical issues with FYI emails).

I am attaching emails between the NZSIS and the following media outlets:

- Newshub
- RNZ
- TVNZ
- New Zealand Herald
- Stuff
- Newsroom

Some information has been withheld under the following sections of the OIA:

- Section 6(a), where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand (this relates to the identities of NZSIS staff);
- Section 6(c), to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial; and
- Section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of natural persons.

Where information is held under section 9 of the OIA, I consider that the public interest does not outweigh my decision to withhold this information.

I am refusing your request for emails between the NZSIS and The Guardian and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

In respect of your request for emails between the NZSIS and Professor Al Gillespie, as provided for by section 10 of the OIA, I can neither confirm nor deny whether we hold this information. To do so would be likely to prejudice the interests protected by section 6(a) of the Official Information Act 1982, namely the security or defence of New Zealand.

Review

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Kitteridge

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Te Tumu Whakarae mō Te Pā Whakamarumaru Director-General of Security