

11 February 2022

Reference: IR-01-21-37150

Gregory Soar  
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Kia ora Gregory

***Request for information***

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request which was transferred to Police by the Ministry of Justice on 16 December 2021. You requested the following:

*Labour has inserted a clause into the Covid-19 Health Response Act giving various groups including "a nominated representative of an iwi organisation" the power to "close roads and public places and stop vehicles".*

*Please supply the full list of names of these "nominated people".*

*Please explain how they are nominated and by whom.*

Under any setting of the COVID-19 Protection Framework or any Public Health Order that is in place, a checkpoint that is set up, either as short-term controlled checkpoints or a random checkpoint, must be managed by a police officer. In order to comply with the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 an enforcement officer can only act under the supervision of a police officer. Checkpoints that have been set up without the supervision of a police officer are not lawful.

If Police determines there is a need to authorise suitably qualified and trained persons to carry out any functions or powers of an enforcement officer under the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020, organisations, including Iwi and community agencies, will nominate individuals to be considered by Police.

Your request for the full list of names of these "nominated people" is withheld pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect the privacy of natural persons. Police considers the interests requiring protection by withholding the information are not outweighed by any public interest in release of the information.

**Police National Headquarters**

180 Molesworth Street, Thorndon, Wellington 6011  
[www.police.govt.nz](http://www.police.govt.nz)

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. Information about how to make a complaint is available at:

[www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. McLean', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael McLean  
Director  
Māori, Pacific, and Ethnic Services