

12 April 2022

Andrew Ecclestone  
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Tēnā koe Andrew Ecclestone

### Discussion paper regarding the dimensions of security vs. transparency

Thank you for your email dated 8 February 2022 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Your request relates to an OIA [response](#) from the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service:

*“Stats NZ had done some work with Customs New Zealand and written a discussion paper regarding the dimensions of security vs. transparency.”*

*The Council is requesting a copy of the ‘discussion paper regarding the dimensions of security vs. transparency’ referred to in that note of the meeting.*

I would like to apologise for the delay in my response to your request. Unfortunately, there was an administration error and the request was not correctly logged. I acknowledge that you sought this information under urgency, and I apologise for the inconvenience we have caused.

To address your request, I can confirm that Stats NZ has undertaken a thorough search for the ‘discussion paper regarding the dimensions of security vs. transparency’. Stats NZ has been unable to locate the paper or any records internally of the paper’s existence. We have contacted Customs NZ seeking a copy of the paper and they have confirmed they are unable to locate the paper. For this reason, we have determined that the discussion paper referred to does not exist and refuse your request under section 18(e) of the Act.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

It is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published on the Stats NZ website. Publishing responses creates greater openness and transparency of government decision-making and helps better inform public understanding of the reasons for decisions.

Ngā mihi nui



Kate Satterthwaite  
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