



2 June 2023

Sebastian
fyi-request-18833-cb89c3e9@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ombudsman Ref: 582349
Ref: OIA-2021/22-1177

Dear Sebastian

Official Information Act request relating to vectors of harm papers

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) that was transferred from the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS) to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 29 March 2022. You requested:

"I would like to request copies of the "vectors of harm" papers produced by the NZSIS on these topics:

- 1) Sabotage and Subversion*
- 2) Espionage*
- 3) Weapons of Mass Destruction"*

You asked the Ombudsman to investigate the decisions on your request to withhold the 'vectors of harm' papers in full. In the light of the Ombudsman's investigation, DPMC has reassessed the documents and it has been agreed to release some of the previously withheld information.

Please find attached an Appendix which consists of extracts from the requested documents. The Appendix includes titles of the individual document from which each of the extracts is drawn.

I have decided to continue to withhold the remainder of these documents under the following sections of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) as set out in the paragraphs below.

The remainder of information in the document "*The Threat to New Zealand from the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction*" is withheld under section 6(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand.

The remainder of information in the document "*The Threat to New Zealand from Sabotage and Subversion*" is withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- section 6(a), *as above*.
- section 6(c), to protect the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial.

The remainder of information in both versions of "*The Espionage Threat to New Zealand*" is withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- section 6(a), *as above*.

- section 6(b)(i), to protect the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on the DPMC's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Tony Lynch
Deputy Chief Executive
National Security Group

Enc: Appendix of extracts from requested documents

cc: Office of the Ombudsman
Ombudsmen reference: 582349