

17 November 2022

Mark Hanna
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Tēnā koe Mark

Request for information

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 16 October 2022.
You asked:

Please release the following information:

1. TOR data for the 1 January - 31 December 2021 reporting period, in the same format as was released for the January - December 2020 reporting period (ref IR-01-21-29521).

Please also explain any relevant caveats that should be kept in mind when analysing this information.

Please provide all information, including the response letter, in an accessible, searchable format. Please provide the TOR data in a machine-readable format such as CSV or XLSX. I'd be happy if the XLSB format that has been used to release the data covering 2020 is used again.

I am writing in response to your request for the release of 2021 Tactical Options data. As previously agreed, due to the extensive data preparation required, Police will release the data after the Annual Tactical Options report has been produced, as much of the work required will have then been completed. This arrangement, in conjunction with the compromise reached in consultation with the Office of the Ombudsman regarding the scope of your request, enables us to fulfil your request with a reasonable number of hours work. I acknowledge the successful outcome achieved using this process previously and reiterate my anticipation of being able to fulfil a request for the data when the report has been produced.

Police National Headquarters

180 Molesworth Street. PO Box 3017, Wellington 6140, New Zealand.
Telephone: 04 474 9499. Fax: 04 498 7400. www.police.govt.nz

The Radio NZ article you have cited appears to be based on an OIA response Police provided to another requestor which read, "...data from 2021 Tactical Options reports is currently being quality-checked, coded, and analysed for the 2021 Tactical Options Annual Report..."

This process of data preparation is still underway. In November 2021, Tactical Options reporting shifted to a new database; you may have seen the new Tactical Database mentioned in the 2020 Annual Tactical Options Report. The Tactical Database represents an improvement in Tactical Options data capture and management. However, because this change occurred part way through the calendar year, 2021 Tactical Options data is currently spread across two databases and stored in different formats and with some differences in the data fields. Police has been working on translating data from the old TOR database to combine with the Tactical Database. This data migration and testing process is more intensive than the usual data preparation processes and requires substantial staff resource. I expect that the data migration process will soon be complete, at which point Police will be able to proceed to completing the usual data preparation process for the 2021 Annual Report.

On this basis, your request is refused under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research. We would welcome re-submission of your request after the Annual Tactical Options Report has been published. Alternatively, we would be happy to proactively release the Tactical Options dataset to you after the 2021 Annual Tactical Options Report has been produced. In order for us to proactively contact you when the data is ready, you would need to provide an email address that we could send the data to.

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



Inspector Jason Ross
Acting Director Capability