

15 November 2022

Scott

By email: fyi-request-20983-625161ee@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Scott,

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) about Te Mana Whakaatu—Classification Office’s Countering Violent Extremism team strategy, which we received on 31 October 2022.

You said:

I would like to request a copy of the Countering Violent Extremism team strategy for countering digital extremism and dangerous disinformation.

The strategy I am requesting is referred to in OFLC material published on the Parliament website earlier this year:

https://www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/53SCGA_EVI_118632_GA21083/13ad81f62ca6fc8638a750d02b996cde65d7030f

“In mid-2020 the CVE drafted an integrated strategy for addressing digital extremism and dangerous disinformation.” (Quote on page 4).

In responding to your request, we have weighed up the factors in the OIA, including the purposes in [section 4](#) and the principle of availability in [section 5](#).

Response to your request

A draft document named ‘Digital Extremism and Dangerous Disinformation Integrated Strategy’ is attached to this response. This document remains in draft and is not public policy.

This document was prepared by the Classification Office’s Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) team in 2020. In surveying the CVE landscape of Aotearoa, the team recognised that a strategic framework would be needed to guide supportive efforts behind core initiatives such as the Christchurch Call. The team pulled together several key areas of growth and opportunity including the role of dangerous mis- and disinformation in radicalising potential extremists.

This approach has guided the CVE team's outreach and education priorities. The document has also informed the Office's research output, including the [Edge of the Infodemic](#) report released in 2021.

The [Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism Strategy](#) was released in June 2021. This document details how government undertakes its responsibility to keep Aotearoa safe for all New Zealanders. The strategy sets out how agencies work together to prevent terrorism and violent extremism of all kinds in New Zealand, while ensuring the systems and capabilities are in place to act early and respond when needed. The strategy includes a work programme that focuses on reducing the threat of terrorism and violent extremism.

A [Strategic Framework for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism](#) is being developed by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. This framework is set to be released at the end of 2022.

Publication of response

This response may be published on the Classification Office's [website](#). If it is published there, your personal information will be redacted.

Right of review

You have the right to make a complaint and seek a review by the Ombudsman of this response under [section 28\(3\) of the OIA](#). Information about this process is available at ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Thank you for your interest in our mahi.

Ngā mihi nui,
Te Mana Whakaatu—Classification Office