



Dr Zhivan Alach, PhD

fyi-request-218-de78545d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Dr Alach

I refer to your request dated 7 May 2012, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982, requesting information relating to the following:

- *“the Ministry having produced, commissioned, or received any report citing the costs of limiting the speed of vehicles”; and/or*
- *whether “the Ministry is currently producing, commissioning, or in the process of receiving any report citing the costs of limiting the speed of vehicles”; and*
- *“any executive reports or minutes relating to the Ministry’s decision to focus on speed at the expense of other safety options”.*

The Ministry has not produced, commissioned or received any specific reports about the issues referenced in your request above. In addition, the Ministry is not currently in the process of producing or commissioning any reports about these issues. Your request therefore is refused, in accordance with section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982, as there are no documents containing the information you have requested.

The current requirements for road controlling authorities to set speed limits are set out in Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2003 (the Rule). The Rule allows road controlling authorities to set various speed limits providing they comply with the requirements of the Rule. The rule is available on the NZ Transport Agency website at <http://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/rules/setting-speed-limits-2003-index.html>.

As part of Safer Journeys, the government’s road safety strategy to 2020, the overall objective is to imbed a safe system approach to road safety. The Safe System approach focuses on creating safe roads, safe speeds, safe vehicles and safe road use. The Safe System approach differs from traditional approaches to road safety, and requires efforts to be focused across all elements of the road system, rather than one area at the expense of others. It also recognises that everybody had a responsibility for road safety. The Safer Journeys document is available on the Ministry of Transport website <http://www.transport.govt.nz/>.

The first Safer Journeys Action Plan, which is also available on our website, includes the focus area of creating speed limits that reflect the safe system approach. The NZ Transport Agency is in the process of conducting a review of New Zealand’s speed management framework over the period 2011 – 2012 to reflect that safe system approach. This may lead to changes being made to the Rule.

Should you wish to contact the NZ Transport Agency about this review you can do so by emailing Info@nzta.govt.nz or writing to:

NZ Transport Agency
50 Victoria Street
Private Bag 6995
WELLINGTON

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act to make a complaint about the refusal of your request to the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsmen
P O Box 10-152
WELLINGTON

Yours sincerely

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

Nick Brown
Acting General Manager, Road and Rail
For CHIEF EXECUTIVE