

9 August 2023

Hunter
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Tēnā koe Hunter

Request for information

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 22 July 2023. You wrote:

To start, I want to acknowledge that a similar question was lodged in "IR-01-22-6498". However, I wonder if the following would ever be considered.

- 1. Individuals following a direct-entry scheme, if successful, must still follow the "normal" police recruitment process. Being held on a probational period to gain the relevant experience before beginning the "reinforcement cycle."*
- 2. Direct-entry individuals must still pass any pre-selection screening and requirements. Meeting any relevant learning objectives to prepare them. If successful, they can attend selection.*

The previous request you mention (IR-01-22-6498) asked if Police has plans to open the selection process to Police's Special Tactics Group (STG) to people who are not already constabulary employees of New Zealand Police.

The response to that previous request remains applicable to your request, that is New Zealand Police is not currently considering opening STG selection to people who are not constabulary employees.

It is the core policing skills, knowledge and experience gained as a frontline police officer (constabulary employee) that provides the foundation for being selected to be an STG operator. STG members are police officers first and foremost, who then receive additional tactical training as part of their STG role.

Restricting STG selection to current constabulary employees also ensures that STG operators have the necessary legal powers granted to constabulary staff, as well as appropriate experience and currency in applying these legal powers.

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Please note that as part of its commitment to openness and transparency, Police proactively releases some information and documents that may be of interest to the public. An anonymised version of this response may be publicly released on the New Zealand Police website.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Gifford', is positioned above the printed name.

Superintendent Penelope Gifford
Director Tactical Operations