



Office of Hon Judith Collins

MP for Papakura
Minister of Corrections
Minister of Police

29 AUG 2016

Liam Stoneley
Fyi-request-2416-46e2cedf@requets.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Stoneley

I am writing further to your request of 18 January 2015 made to the former Minister of Police, Hon Michael Woodhouse, in which you requested any correspondence to the Minister from the public stating that the messaging around speed tolerance [over the 2014/15 holiday period] was confusing. In particular you were interested in any written record that the Minister received this 'feedback' at all and the volume of that feedback.

In response, this office advised you that the Minister had received around 150 items of correspondence. This correspondence was withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 to protect the privacy of natural persons.

You subsequently made a complaint to the Ombudsman on 18 May 2015 about the Minister's response, commenting that personal details could be "blanked-out" to protect privacy. This present response follows interactions with the Ombudsman's office.

I first apologise for the time taken to finalise the matter.

I attach a number of emails that fall within scope of your request. There may have been other items of correspondence that I have been unable to locate through the various search terms used but the attached are representative of the correspondence received at that time.

Some names, contact details and details that might identify the writers have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 to protect the privacy of natural persons. Some parts of the correspondence that are not about speed tolerance have also been redacted.

You have the right to complain to the Ombudsman about the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely



Inspector Blair Telford
Police Private Secretary

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 9:31 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED : Speed tolerance

NOTED min/p/92

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 9:31 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Speed tolerance

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning police policy on speed tolerance.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 11:36 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Speed tolerance

Dear s9(2)(a)

Please pass on my encouragement to Hon Michael Woodhouse for asking for a review of the police policy on speed tolerance.

As a safe road user, I'm firmly of the view that, depending on favourable road, traffic, weather and other factors, sensible speed tolerances (eg +10%) should be allowed.

In the light of improving capabilities of road and vehicles (and hopefully driver education - but that is yet to be proven), speed limits on many highways could be re-assessed. In some cases, they should be lower - in others, higher.

kind regards,

s9(2)(a)

From: [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 27 November 2014 10:22 p.m.
To: M. Woodhouse
Cc: [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)
Subject: NO TOLERANCE: Police have confirmed that there will be no tolerance for motorists just over the speed limit during the Christmas-New Year holidays.

I cannot believe that speedometer calibrations are not being considered with this new policy. I might add that this is not a part of Warrant's of fitness.

Regardless of the statement that police have discretion, I do not believe that it will be used wisely.

I resent the fact that the majority of drivers are being penalised for others actions

Many accidents have occurred because of slow drivers and I have no doubt that given your new policy that there will be many more accidents due to frustration of drivers behind those who are sitting way under the speed limit so as not to incur fines.

I will be very interested to watch the traffic flow during the holiday period with most people driving down speed wise.

Personally, I will ensure that I drive at least 10 K below the given speed limit regardless of my speedometer reading - thinking it could be 1 to 10 percent calibration- regardless of whether I might driving on my suburban street, or motorways or major routes.

Your Government gained power partly because of Labours 'Nanny' Policies and I have voted for you each time, however, I am beginning to find that many of your introductions smack of being a Police State.

[REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

From: [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

Sent: Sunday, December 07, 2014 7:20 PM

To: [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

Cc: 'm.woodhouse@ministers.govt.nz'

Subject: RE: NO TOLERANCE: Police have confirmed that there will be no tolerance for motorists just over the speed limit during the Christmas-New Year holidays.

H [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

Thank you for your reply however, I find it to be dismissive and patronizing.

Understandably, an email address for the Commissioner of Police, Mike Bush is not available or otherwise I would have copied him in on my original email however, I was hoping that my concerns would have been forwarded to him and that the Minister of Police might have taken my concerns on board.

It appears to me, given recent public opinion regarding this issue, that the decision to have a no tolerance level that has been ratified by Mike Bush, is considered to be unjustified and dare I say deemed to be a money making ploy. Understandably so because it seems that the public are given statistics to suit the decision but at the same time are not given statistics for the causes of other accidents and deaths that occur.

In my opinion, it is unfortunate that the undermanned police force continues to lose respect due to this continuing focus on driving issues. In the public perception, driving issues seem to be far more important at a policing level rather than what used to be considered, police backup to the public for all other criminal activities.

Please forward my email to Mike Bush.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

From: [REDACTED] s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]@parliament.govt.nz

Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 11:58 AM

To: [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

Subject: Re: NO TOLERANCE: Police have confirmed that there will be no tolerance for motorists just over the speed limit during the Christmas-New Year holidays.

Dear [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 27 November 2014 concerning the Police policy on speed enforcement. Speed enforcement is an operational decision for the Commissioner of Police and officers will continue to have and use their discretion to enforce the speed limit.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, January 05, 2015 11:53 AM
To: [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: NO TOLERANCE: Police have confirmed that there will be no tolerance for motorists just over the speed limit during the Christmas-New Year holidays.

Dear [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge and thank you for your email of 4 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances. Please be assured that your comments have been noted.

I must point out that politicians cannot instruct Police in operational matters. This is a long standing convention that was enshrined in law with the passing of the Policing Act 2008. It ensures that law enforcement and investigation by the Police remain free of any political influence or interference.

Therefore, as the issues you refer to in your correspondence relate to matters that are the responsibility of the Commissioner of Police, I have transferred your email to his office for consideration.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)
Sent: Sunday, 4 January 2015 10:34 p.m.
To: [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)
Cc: M Woodhouse
Subject: RE: NO TOLERANCE: Police have confirmed that there will be no tolerance for motorists just over the speed limit during the Christmas-New Year holidays.

To Whom it is concerned.

It appears, seeing the statistics so far during this holiday period, that regardless of the **'No tolerance for motorists just over the speed limit during the Christmas-New Year holidays'**, our road toll during this time is horrendous.

My friends, family and any other person I had spoken to prior to my original email agreed that the **'No tolerance speed'** was driven by revenue. Given the current road toll, we are asking whether not the Commissioner of Police sees that revenue is more important than addressing other important driving issues.

As voters and citizens we have a right to demand to be given the simple statistics as to what caused the accidents and deaths during this holiday period so far.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 12:37 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Subject: NOTED: Road policing

Importance: High

NOTED min/p/7

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 12:37 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Subject: Re: Road policing
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 4 January concerning speed tolerances.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, 4 January 2015 5:06 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Road policing

Good afternoon,

I was in touch earlier about the stupidity of the 101kph rule and the reply I received from your people was predictable.

<http://www.whaleoil.co.nz/2015/01/road-toll-double-last-year-despite-police-crackdown-perfect-weather-conditions/>

I'm sure you've seen whaleoils campaign on this but I attach this link anyway. Explains it pretty well I think.

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 12:45 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Road police zero tolerance "fail"

Importance: High

NOTED min/p/8

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 12:44 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Road police zero tolerance "fail"
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 4 January 2015 concerning Police speed tolerance.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Sunday, 4 January 2015 3:35 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Road police zero tolerance "fail"

MP: Mr M Woodhouse,
I drove my car on the 3rd Jan [redacted] s9(2)(a) The attention required in ensuring that I did not exceed your Road police zero tolerance during that drive was a major distraction from the attention that should have been mainly devoted to:

- (1) Road conditions
- (2) Other road users
- (3) Defensive driving

With no cruise control in our vehicle it really was a distraction that should not be applied to motorists. The old tolerance was workable for a driver.

While the Police PR machine is frantically claiming that the doubled holiday road toll was caused by: cheap petrol and other non-events. The real cause probably is related to the points raised by Dave Cliff "Driver fatigue and inattention were factors." This fatigue is exactly what I felt after the effort required in remaining within the speed tolerance on our complete journey and the inattention Dave Cliff mentions is a by-product from watching the speedo more than the road.

In Summary: The entire program has been a huge fail and I suspect it was more about Revenue than real policing. The extra Police resources could have been better used in local crime detection (particular in Auckland).
Regards

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 1:17 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Speed and Policing

Importance: High

NOTED min/p/11

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 1:17 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Speed and Policing
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 3 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Saturday, 3 January 2015 7:52 a.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Speed and Policing

Ron Mark it 100% correct.

The focus on a 4km error allowance has sent the wrong message.

First as motorcycle rider it is unsafe. If a biker rides below the prevailing driving speed the risk of being driven off the road is considerable. If I let one car pass the car behind it passes also and the risk of a second or third vehicle increases the danger significantly. Second as a motorcyclist it is more important that I watch the road the other vehicles and possible road risk ie uneven surface or items on the road, so also having to watch the speedometer is an unnecessary risk. Speed fluctuates. Up and down according to conditions. I have had more than one instance of entrapment of motorcyclists by Police officers. Yes biking is a risk but I would swear it is more dangerous as a result of policing than it would be otherwise. Stop harassing bikers. It is actually safer for a bike to be a little clear of other

traffic because that is the danger area. Let bikers ride at 125 if they need to (to overtake, because the sooner it is over the safer it is). Over that take the bike off the rider. Simple. Accidents will decrease. Speed is not the issue the rider is ! I have ridden 200,000 many countries round the world and NZ is the worse for biker safety. Making bikes ride "locked in" between cars and trucks is not sensible.

Monitoring "temporary speed zones" when the speed is unrealistically low when there is no danger and no one is at work, perhaps some loose gravel not requiring a 30km speed restriction, is just highwayman tactics. "I can fine you so I will". No safety issues just money. It happens all too often. I see it all the time and frankly my resentment for that conduct is unhealthy. It makes for resentment, not co-operation. Temporary speed zones litter our roads needlessly. Especially when no one is working in them.

As for Policing. Ron Mark is right. Too much time spent speedo gazing fearful of being 1km over. That is not safe driving.

Frankly harassing motorists is counterproductive. I hope they do not expect driver co-operation and support when they act like mercenaries. Waiting at the bottom of inclines or at the first passing opportunity on busy roads. Just highwaymen demanding money. Not what I want our Police to be.

Nor do I want them patrolling private beaches. Like 90 mile beach. Do Maori have access to private use of the Police force. Sorry but that is totally unacceptable.

Have a good year but what is taking place with the Police on the roads is making it more dangerous. Back off focus on safety because nothing will stop a silly driver in a small car overtaking on a blind corner with a yellow line as happened yesterday. I have an opinion that drivers have travel time expectations and driving under 100km takes longer so they become intolerant of any delay. Hence the silly overtaking that is everywhere trying to get clear of daisy chains.

The Police have the wrong focus. It is behavior and that is not evidenced by driving at 108 km or even 118 km. The policy is killing people, there are too many factors involved, density, weather, road surfaces, litter on the road, halogen lights that cause momentary blindness, driving with lights on which interferes with distance judgement. Incidentally the Bikers Club of America believe accidents went up with compulsory headlights on during daylight.

I reiterate judging distance becomes more difficult therefore overtaking more dangerous. And we have to overtake to break up daisy chain drivers that cause frustration to other motorists. (More overtaking lanes better policed in fact if police want to do a service on speeding look at the speed on the inside lane. 90km down the road and as soon as two lanes start up to 110 and then back down again when overtaking lane ends. That is really stupid policing !

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 2:11 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Road policing

NOTED min/p/17

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 2:10 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Road policing

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 5 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

s9(2)(a)

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, January 05, 2015 11:05 AM New Zealand Standard Time
To: Hon Michael Woodhouse
Subject: Road policing

Dear Sir,

I have listened with interest to the debate about whether the changes to this year's 'Holiday period speed enforcement policy' was beneficial or otherwise.

While I had some initial reservations, based on the fact that both my smaller vehicles have very different speedo results when checked against my Tom tom's GPS reading, it was only after going for an extended drive over last weekend that I felt the full impact of how not having any 'speed tolerance' effects many motorists and can see why there is a general feeling that this type of policy is considered by most law-abiding citizens to be 'revenue gathering' - pure and simple. It is also unfair, simply because motorists who own perhaps older cars that do not have digital speedos have to rely on the 'not too easy to read accurately' needle type speedo.

I say it is unfair because, based on my Tom-tom's GPS s9(2)(a) is reading about 3 kph too slow, while my s9(2)(a) is about 2 kph on the fast side. This means that if I am driving s9(2)(a) believing that I am driving within the speed limit, I could actually be over by several kph and could, potentially, get a ticket for being as law-abiding as best I could.

Is this the purpose of the law?

If so, then it is clearly 'revenue-gathering'.

On s9(2)(a)

I did not watch the 'speedo' but preferred to work to the Tom-tom's GPS.

Whether this is a good policy or not is not something that I can check or verify however, s9(2)(a) does have 'cruise-control' and I often had the chance to use this, setting the speed on the open-road at either 97 kph or 98 kph.

Again I found that this nil, or very low speed tolerance may result in being stopped and possibly ticketed as setting cruise-control does not guarantee that you will be within the law as the car varied between 96 - 101 kph, depending on the undulations of the road!

It was interesting to watch the digital GPS read-out of my speed which was not always apparent when watching the speedo needle.

The third thing that did become apparent to me was the amount of time I was actually watching those speed variations instead of not worrying about it because I may only be one or two kph over!

You may say "Well just drive slower so that you don't go over!"

Since driving over the holiday period, the period when this policy is in force, I can honestly say that to drive slower would make more people speed and do stupid passing moves, simply because you would be slowing-up the flow of traffic.

I trust that this policy will be scrapped in the interests of safer roads.

Records
s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 3:10 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Zero Tolerance Speed Limit

Importance: High

NOTED min/p/19

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 3:10 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Zero Tolerance Speed Limit
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 5th January 2014 concerning speed tolerances

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 12:57 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Zero Tolerance Speed Limit

Dear Mr Woodhouse,

In relation to the zero tolerance speed limit that has been enforced over the holiday period, I hope the police realise and accept that it has been a failure.

If it had been a success, I have no doubt that the police would be trumpeting their good decision-making and success at keeping the road toll down and how we need tighter road rules all round etc. Since it has obviously not done this, I hope that the Police can be honest with the public and admit that in this particular case, they failed.

I do not condone speeding and in my 20 years of driving have only two very minor speeding tickets. I am just concerned at the increasingly draconian and clearly revenue-gathering rules that are imposed on the NZ public.

I think that we all know that the people that cause accidents are not the ones that go 3 km/h over the limit (or that have 2 standard drinks then drive). This is common sense and these laws do not work, as we have seen. If the government took a more common-sense approach to policing (and many other things!) I believe that our society would be a fairer and safer place.

Kind regards,

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 3:16 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED : Zero Tolerance Speeding

Importance: High

NOTED min/p/20

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 3:15 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Zero Tolerance Speeding
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email to s9(2)(a) and CC'ed to this office on 5 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 2:15 p.m.
To: Office of Mark Mitchell MP
Cc: M Woodhouse
Subject: Zero Tolerance Speeding

Hi s9(2)(a)

I'm not normally one to write to an MP, but I wanted to voice my displeasure at the current "Zero Tolerance" policy by the Police when enforcing the speed limit.

I know it's technically a Police decision, but I would like to think the Minister will tell them to pull their head in next year.

Looking at the road toll, things are worse than last year.

Evidence seems to suggest what the Police were doing was never going to work. I'm hearing through some Firemen that I know, in your district, that they have been to more accidents than usual which have been caused by driver frustration at people driving too slow.

It's basically a debacle and has cost the the Police some serious Goodwill, that's not a good thing.

Personally, I haven't had a ticket.. but have spent more time in my car than I should have..

Hope you had a good holiday with the family and Happy New year.

Cheers

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 6 January 2015 10:04 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Stupid Lowered Speed Tolerance Please pass on to M. Woodhouse

NOTED min/p/25

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 5 January 2015 10:03 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Stupid Lowered Speed Tolerance Please pass on to M. Woodhouse

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 5 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

I also took the time to watch the You Tube link. I agree, it was very well put together and the narrator put together a compelling argument.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 5:48 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Stupid Lowered Speed Tolerance Please pass on to M. Woodhouse

Hi I have been a National Voter since s9(2)(a) This stupidity over the December January break needs to be dealt with. The lowered tolerance did nothing but frustrate drivers. The idiots still killed themselves.

There are two other Political parties that I will vote for if this revenue gathering by the police does not end or gets used again over holiday periods. In the mean time may I suggest you watch the video below. It is not offensive and is actually well put together.

Regards

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 6 January 2015 10:11 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: NZ Police anti speeding campaign. s9(2)(a)
Importance: High

NOTED min/p/26

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 6 January 2015 10:11 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: NZ Police anti speeding campaign. & Masterton Police
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 6 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 6 January 2015 2:05 a.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: NZ Police anti speeding campaign. & Masterton Police

Dear Mr Woodhouse,

I doubt very much that there will be many self congratulations going on at the top of Molesworth street, given the road toll over the holiday period.

Quite frankly the initiative for zero tolerance did not work, and I would be interested to know how many accidents were caused by over cautious driving, (the ones causing injury, as you can't ask the dead).

I'm sure you don't do any driving of your own Minister, but I can assure you that looking at a cars' speedometer continually, whist driving is dangerous.

Unless the state is willing to pay for either a warning sensor, or a HUD display in every registered vehicle on the road, initiatives like the last effort should be forgotten about, and the Police should be put to better use catching real offenders, and preventing real crime.

Which brings me to the second part of my correspondence, I would like to know why with complete inpropriety, some people in [redacted] s9(2)(a) can drive at excessive speed, doing 'wheelies' and 'dropping patches' in broad daylight over an extended timeframe around three of the main streets [redacted] s9(2)(a) without Police intervention.

The instances happened on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Perhaps you could ask the [redacted] s9(2)(a) what sort of law enforcement they provide there?

Sincerely

[redacted] s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 6 January 2015 12:46 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Police and the holidays

Importance: High

NOTED min/p/30

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 6 January 2015 12:48 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Police and the holidays
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 6 January 2015 concerning the Police attitude toward speeding motorists.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 6 January 2015 9:51 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Police and the holidays

Hullo,

My property in Auckland was broken into while we were on holiday. A police report was made but nothing will happen. On my return journey to investigate this I was ticketed at 2 kph over the limit and lectured by Mr Plod.

As a s9(2)(a) law abiding citizen I have voted for your party in every election since I was able. Change this daft attitude towards speeding by the Police or my family votes are lost to National next time round.

Happy New Year

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 7 January 2015 9:36 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Zero Tolerance Speed Enforcement

NOTED min/p/32

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 7 January 2015 9:35 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Zero Tolerance Speed Enforcement

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 6 January 2015 concerning zero tolerance speed enforcement.

While enforcement of speed limits is a Police responsibility without government intervention, the Police have and will continue to use their discretion while executing their duties.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

-----Original Message-----

From: Hon Anne Tolley
Sent: Tuesday, 6 January 2015 4:26 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Zero Tolerance Speed Enforcement

Dear s9(2)(a)

On behalf of the Hon Anne Tolley thank you for your email dated 6 January 2015.

As this issue falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister of Police, I have transferred your email to Hon Michael Woodhouse for his Consideration and direct response to you.

Thank you for writing

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

The information contained in this email is intended for the named recipient only. It may contain privileged material or information in confidence and if you are not the intended recipient you must not copy, distribute or take any action in reliance on it. If you have received this email in error, please notify me immediately by telephone or return email.

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 6 January 2015 1:51 p.m.
To: Hon Anne Tolley
Subject: Zero Tolerance Speed Enforcement

The previous Labour Government became deeply unpopular towards the end of its third term, due in part to its nanny state approach to many things, with the abolition of the incandescent light bulb being touted as the last straw that finally broke the camel's back; the public duly voted them out of office for which we are still thankful.

I fear the same may be happening to the still very popular National Government, not through the humble light bulb, but through the not so humble traffic officers criminalising safe and sensible drivers with a very draconian and extremely unpopular zero tolerance approach to speeding.

By and large most New Zealanders respect the law, and the officers of the law, but with the latter this is fast changing. It is hard to have respect for someone targeting experienced drivers with good safety records and ticketing them for doing 105 km/h on a motorway. It is equally hard to have respect for the same persons clandestinely working on long straight urban roads catching the evil Mum taking the kids to school doing a reckless 4km over the limit on a road that's never had any fatalities on it!

This approach is akin to a teacher dishing out class detentions for the unruly few.

Enforcement only works with a cooperative population, and respect is something that's earned.

Sadly the public (and the traffic officers) have been hypnotised into thinking that the road toll is caused by ordinary people speeding and that a tough zero tolerance approach will magically lower it.

It hasn't. The facts are all there on the Government website.

They don't lie.

2014 has seen the biggest focus on speed enforcement ever in this country, so much so that it's actually embarrassing taking visitors from other countries on our roads who wonder incredulously at the amount of cops, cameras, and patrols everywhere, and laugh at the bloody-mindedness and stupidity of our approach to road safety.

They probably wonder if they're in New Zealand or a military zone in Afghanistan!

Given time people will make the mental leap as to who is behind this nonsense, and correctly blame the National Government.

So what has the Police's fetish with speed actually done this year?

Annual Toll	Up 17%
Easter Road Toll	Up 66%
Labour Weekend Toll	Up 300%
December Toll (Beginning of zero tolerance + lowering of alcohol limits)	Up 21%
Holiday Toll – again with zero tolerance + lowered alcohol limits)	Up 143%

What can't be measured is the hostility and antagonism towards those enforcing these ridiculous and unreasonable laws.

Note that the only thing that's changed between 2013 and 2014 is the lowering of the speed tolerance coupled with a lowering of the alcohol limit

Cars are improving year after year, as are our roads, so how is it after a zero tolerance approach in December we saw a 21% increase in road deaths, and over the holiday period we saw a staggering 143% increase!

The public aren't stupid, and they are waking up to the reality of what these figures represent.

They know it's the drivers who drive with total disregard to the law, often inexperienced, losing control, texting, crossing the centreline, blind drunk, no wof, tourists... Yet the traffic officers insist on victimising the completely wrong people.

The public also understand and will have witnessed if they've had the courage to venture out this year amongst the sea of Hyundai speed cameras, fixed cameras, highway patrols, police officers, motorbike cops, that there is a huge increase in driver frustration due to the insanely slow speeds of some motorists, and consequently more risky overtaking manoeuvres undertaken.

This situation needs arresting before the public become totally disenchanted, and the road toll climbs even higher!

The Government could take their cue from our English counterparts perhaps, where a traffic officer wouldn't even blink if someone was doing 15-20 km/h over the limit unless that person was deemed driving dangerously.

And their road toll per capita is less than half of ours!

We need a complete change of culture.

We need to train and empower cops who can discern between safe drivers straying over the limit to the ones blatantly driving dangerously, we need to combine enforcement with common sense, we need to get over our fixation on speed and replace it with a campaign targeting incompetent and dangerous drivers in the areas where the fatalities are occurring.

This coupled with an education programme to up-skill our current and potential drivers, to drive courteously, keep left, and stay focussed will do much more towards road safety than an arbitrary, no tolerance, one size fits all approach that has insidiously infiltrated our policing culture.

We can and must do better.

Kind Regards

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 9 January 2015, 3:18 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: NZ Road Accident Focus

Importance: High

NOTED min/p/48

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 9 January 2015, 3:18 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: NZ Road Accident Focus
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 9 January 2015 concerning the Police focus of speed enforcement on our roads.

I must point out that politicians cannot instruct Police in operational matters. This is a long standing convention that was enshrined in law with the passing of the Policing Act 2008. It ensures that law enforcement and investigation by the Police remain free of any political influence or interference.

Speed enforcement of the legal limits is an operational decision for the Commissioner of Police. Officers will continue to have and use their discretion to enforce the speed limit.

Your correspondence and views have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 9 January 2015, 1:48 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Fwd: NZ Road Accident Focus

Please forward for eyes of the minister.

The below e mail, I sent to Ron Mark some days ago in appreciation of his expressed view in regard to police road safety focus.

Today, the "Dominion" carries an opinion piece, also about police road safety focus, the content of which expresses very well, the opinion of public at large.

The words of Sir Robert Pcele are as relevant to day as when first spoken.

The dominion article contains an observation that has crucial ongoing consequence,
(something I had not thought of in any depth when I e mailed to Ron Mark).
The actions and focus of the police are not only failing the NZ public, they fail the police as well.
Denigration of police image in the eye of the public has far reaching consequences indeed.

Please take this on board.

I am a National voter, not NZ First, but I Did e mail Ron because he said what needed to be said.

Kind regards

s9(2)(a)

Date: 7 January 2015 2:41:28 pm NZDT

To: s9(2)(a)

Subject: NZ Road Accident Focus

Dear s9(2)(a)

Thanks for speaking up as you have.

For the sake of Mums Dads and kids out there getting killed on our roads, someone has to change the bone head focus the police have directed to speed and alcohol as the primary cause of all road deaths.

Their own road patrol officers know better, and those of us those of us who each spend many hours driving high kilometres every year know for sure, STUPIDITY and INCOMPETENCE have everything to do with road accidents.

You know the saying, " you can't fix stupid ", well actually you can, but it requires a culture shift, takes time and intelligent direction. Partner to it improvement in driving competence and we will be getting some where.

In years past I have driven several tens of thousands of Km's in s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a) and been on the scene of accidents there also, but nowhere have I experienced such demonstration of stupidly and incompetence as I see on our roads.

When I hear spokes persons for road safety and the police on the subject of accident reduction, it is absolutely clear to me the stupidity and incompetence in those departments has to be changed.

Kind regards

s9(2)(a)

Sent from my iPad

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) @parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 12 January 2015 9:27 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED : speed enforcement
Importance: High

NOTED min/p/50

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 12 January 2015 9:27 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: speed enforcement
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 11 January 2015 concerning the Police zero-tolerance campaign for speed enforcement.

While speed enforcement is an operational matter for Police, they have and continue to use their discretion while enforcing speed limits.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely,

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Sunday, 11 January 2015 11:36 a.m.
To: M Woodhouse; s9(2)(a)
Subject: Public confidence in NZ Police being eroded

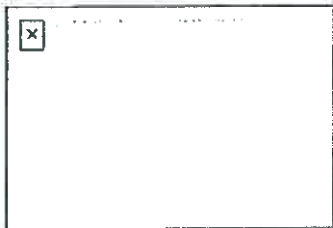
Dear Ministers,

I feel compelled to write to you regarding the current zero-tolerance campaign for speed limit enforcement.

Have you read the article below, and noted the hundreds of comments it generated?

[Zero tolerance crackdown backfires](#)

[Zero tolerance crackdown backfires](#)



I'm sure I'm not the only one who has found the police lecturing increasingly patronising.

www.tuff.co.nz

s9(2)(a)

I don't think that any reasonable person could possibly object to reasonable enforcement with the intent to make our roads safer, but I am of the strong opinion that Police have got the balance wrong in this particular case. As you know, the Policing Act specifically states that effective policing relies on a wide measure of public support and confidence. I am of the opinion that the zero-tolerance policy, along with the way in which it has been communicated, has been injurious to overall public confidence in our Police.

Minister Woodhouse was quoted ([NZ Herald](#)) as saying "I'm sure the police will take a sensible approach to enforcement". My reading on this issue over the last few weeks would lead me to respectfully suggest that this is fundamentally not the case.

I urge you to please remain focussed on how important it is for the public to have faith in those who uphold our laws, and to keep this in mind when you discuss this issue with Commissioner Bush.

Kind regards
s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) @parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 8:17 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: s9(2)(a)

DNR min/p/55

No name and abusive

From: M Woodhouse
Sent: Monday, 12 January 2015 4:35 p.m.
To: Blair Telford
Subject: FW: D Cliff - politician?

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 12 January 2015 4:29 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Cc: s9(2)(a)
Subject: s9(2)(a)

Interesting statement from s9(2)(a) re cost of initiating fines for minor road infringements. He claims not revenue gathering, has negative effect on Police budget, negative net revenue! So if this revenue gathering activity consumes valuable finances and personal, diverted away from core Police responsibilities eg POLICING, why do it? s9(2) is giving the impression of being a Political Spin Doctor, laying on thick levels of BULLSHIT! That's the Ministers job! Dump the revenue gathering, focus on Police key responsibilities. If the Minister needs more monies to meet Budget, take a PAY CUT.

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 8:28 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Subject: NOTED: Zero Tolerance

NOTED min/p/56

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 8:26 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Subject: Re: zero Tolerance

Dear s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 5 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances.

While enforcing speed tolerances in an operational matter for Police, they have, and continue to use discretion when doing so. The Minister has received considerable public feedback the speed tolerance messaging was confusing and has asked Police to review its messaging in time for any changes to be made for the Easter holiday break

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, 12 January 2015 3:35 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: Zero Tolerance

Dear s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Tourism, Rt Hon John Key, to acknowledge your email of 05 January 2015 concerning zero tolerance policy on speeding. Please be assured your comments have been noted.

As the issue you have raised falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister of Police, Hon Michael Woodhouse, your email has been forwarded on to the office for consideration.

Thank you for taking the time to write to the Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 5 January 2015 7:05 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Zero Tolerance

Hello s9(2)(a)

I am not sure whether this is the appropriate way to contact you. I am very concerned about the police zero tolerance policy on speeding. It clearly is a joke and if you look at the number of comments in the NZ Herald this morning you will see literally hundreds of people against it and maybe a handful who think it has merit. Please stop this madness before our respect for the police is gone forever. You will note that our road toll over the holiday period went up and although the police say that speed was a major contributor, it certainly wasn't caused by people going a couple of km over the limit.

I trust that you will be pragmatic and tell the police to open their eyes.

Regards

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 9:55 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED FW: Speeding

NOTED min/p/57

Hey s9(2)(a) My inbox is running hot with this type of email. I have about 50 this morning, I will try to deal with most of them as noted, so sorry in advance.

s9(2)(a)

Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 9:53 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Speeding

De s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 12 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 9:00 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Speeding

Dear Michael Woodhouse,
Well done with your statement today re speeding.
5% over the limit is not life-threatening 'speeding' and not where the road deaths occur. You cannot help it go over the limit at times - even on cruise control - unless you deliberately drive about 3-4 km/hr below the limit and hold everyone else up, and you cannot overtake safely without exceeding the limit momentarily. If 51 km's in urban areas or 101 km's in the country is dangerous, then so is 50 km or 100 km respectively as there is effectively no difference?
And you are correct in highlighting the inconsistency between the so-called zero tolerance proclaimed by the police and the 4 km speed camera tolerance. To my knowledge the police have never denied they will ticket drivers doing 1-4 km/hr over the limit (though I suspect, anecdotally they probably haven't) and the police lost the plot and, is endemic with the NZ Police, will never admit they are wrong. They have

only succeeded in disenfranchising innocent drivers and losing support.
Good on you for taking a lead - knock their heads together and make them see sense and get the public on-side!!

Regards,

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 10:06 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED : Speed tolerance to be reviewed. Stuff.co.nz 12/01/2015
Importance: High

NOTED min/p/59

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 10:06 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Speed tolerance to be reviewed. Stuff.co.nz 12/01/2015
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 12 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances.

I must point out that politicians cannot instruct Police in operational matters. This is a long standing convention that was enshrined in law with the passing of the Policing Act 2008. It ensures that law enforcement and investigation by the Police remain free of any political influence or interference.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 12 January 2015 8:38 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Speed tolerance to be reviewed. Stuff.co.nz 12/01/2015

Dear Minister

Stuff.co.nz in the motoring section
The article referring to the speed tolerance and safety campaign where you have asked the Police to review all the public messages as part of the summer road safety campaign

- "While this is very much an operational matter for police, I will be taking a close interest in ensuring the message about road safety is clear and unambiguous"

Are you serious, the government and yourself as the police minister should be setting policy and overseeing Police operations not Police bosses randomly setting policy as they feel.

New Zealand does not have a road safety campaign, rather narrow focus on speed, alcohol and placing all the blame on our road toll on these

It is just taking the easy way out to focus on Speed and Alcohol as the real issues are much harder to target.

One day the Police, Land Transport and the Government of the day will take road safety seriously and not revenue based

Regards

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 10:12 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Police speeding policy

NOTED min/p/60

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 10:11 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: re: Police speeding policy

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 12 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4 5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 12 January 2015 9:11 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Police speeding policy

Dear Mr Woodhouse,

wouldn't have a clue what the current speed tolerance is. The police have changed it so many times I've given up trying to remember it.

cancelled my planned trip south this Christmas because I didn't want to be ticketed. When I do drive on the pen road, I tend to just follow the vehicle in front of me working on the assumption that they'll get ticketed 'we are going to fast.

iving around the city is crazy stuff. The speed limits vary from 40 to 50 to 60 to 70 to 80. It reduces to 40 outside schools sometime when. Who knows!

s a dog's breakfast. Can you ask the Police to pick one of their policies and stick with it for a few years d give me a chance to catch up?

nd regards

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) @parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 10:16 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED FW: Zero tolerance

NOTED min/p/61

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 10:16 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Zero tolerance

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 12 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 1804 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 12 January 2015 9:36 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Zero tolerance

Zero tolerance should stay and the limit of 100 K.P.H be just that, the limit.

For people to say that zero tolerance is dangerous are wrong, people driving should be able to have a good idea of their speed without having to constantly look at their speedo, are they doing this at 110 K?

Drivers should know where their speedo is and be able to flick their eyes down for a momentary look, there is no need for a constant look at the speedo. These people should not be driving if this is how they drive.

Regards
s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) @parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 10:42 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Speed limits

NOTED min/ p / 65

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 10:41 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Speed limits

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning speed limits.

Your correspondence and comments have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 7:44 a.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Speed limits

Dear Michael

Your interview on 12B this morning with Jack Tame left me feeling annoyed and confused. How is it that you can categorically state that there was still a 4Km/hr tolerance over the holiday period when I know two people who received fines for less than that margin?

s9(2)(a)

This sort of pedantic over-enforcement is guaranteed to incur the ire of the public while the real, disrespectful boy racer types don't really care. I see it all the time in Auckland. It is further evidenced by the facts when there is some horror crash – invariably alcohol and grossly excessive speed involved.

I am not denying there is huge room for improvement on our roads and NZ'ers are some of the worst, most inconsiderate and badly disciplined drivers I have encountered anywhere in the developed world. But by the same token, I seethe with anger when I receive a fine for doing about 10Km/hr over the limit to SAFELY pass a large truck in a passing bay, having been held up for the previous few km.

Police cars sitting in these obvious spots and fining otherwise pretty law abiding citizens, simply makes no use of common sense and just gets us citizens angry - less likely to co-operate.

I am a firm National/ACT supporter and usually disregard most of what other parties espouse. But I have to say that Ron Mark rang 128 over the holidays with a "mini-rant" over the ridiculous "zero tolerance" speed restrictions in place. What he had to say made absolute sense – he hit the nail fairly and squarely on the head. It would be well worth consulting Ron (if you could ring yourself to seek cross party support) because his ideas made absolute sense. Among other things, he advocates more disciplined driver training approaches – similar to the way the aviation industry trains pilots – slowly graduating them up through the ranks and instilling decent ATTITUDE on the roads. The result is often young but experienced pilots with disciplined attitudes and any breach of the codes is severely dealt with.

out of scope

Regards

s9(2)(a)

RELEASING OFFICIAL INFORMATION

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 11:03 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED : Zero tolerance speeding policy
Attachments: Letter to police 5.1.15.docx

NOTED min/p/67

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 11:02 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Zero tolerance speeding policy

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning zero tolerance speeding policy.

Your correspondence and concerns have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 8:18 a.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Zero tolerance speeding policy

Dear Mr Woodhouse,

I welcome your review of the zero tolerance speeding policy and I ask that you widen the scope of the review to include all aspects of the policy and not just the way the Police have communicated it.

Attached for your information is a copy of a letter I have recently sent to Assistant Police Commissioner Dave Cliff and Gerry Brownlee, who is my local Member of Parliament, outlining some of my concerns about the speed policy.

In addition to the concerns raised in the letter I believe that the Police are misusing their powers

me to be no significant hazards. We noticed examples of this at Riwaka between Christmas and New Year when a speed camera van was twice active on the main road there in a 50km/h zone where there was no footpath and, consequently, no pedestrians. There were no retail businesses or the like near the van. I have also seen speed cameras being used in Harper Avenue, beside Hagley Park in Christchurch on a Sunday morning in December 2013. The road is wide along Harper Ave and there are foot and cycle paths inside barriers along the side of the park there.

I have heard Mr Cliff, on National Radio, state that the goal of the zero-tolerance campaigns is to get speeds down on open roads in particular. It occurs to me that perhaps these camera initiatives should be undertaken in 100km/h areas and not in 50km/h areas where minor speed infringements often do not seem to me to be especially dangerous. I believe that this sort of enforcement behavior is wrong, it brings the Police into disrepute and, effectively, it is only revenue gathering from mostly law abiding motorists who are not doing anything very wrong. If most speed related injuries and fatalities occur in higher speed limit areas why are the Police making such a big enforcement effort in lower speed limit areas? Perhaps that is just easier for them.

I request that your review considers the matters raised here and in the attached letter with a view to ending the farce that we have at present.

Regards

s9(2)(a)



s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 11:16 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Road rules and speed

NOTED min/p/68

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 11:15 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Road rules and speed

De: s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January concerning road rules and speed

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4 5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 8:05:35 a.m.
To: michael.woodhouse@national.org.nz
Subject: Fwd: Road rules and speed

Good Morning Mr Woodhouse,

I heard your interview this morning with Jack Tame on Newstalk ZB.

As I listened, I was driving to work along the s9(2)(a) Unsurprisingly, the government and police are still bleating on about speed. Speed is still not the issue.

I located this email (below) from just over a year ago and much of the problem is still the same.

To my horror, this morning as I passed the off ramp for s9(2)(a) a car was stopped on the shoulder, then started moving again and at approximately walking speed, crossed the off ramp and moved into the left lane - at walking speed - then began to speed up. Vehicles in the slow lane had to swerve or brake heavily to avoid him. Stupid, not related to speed, but indicative of the continued pathetic standard of driving on our roads.

The majority of drivers I see each morning are driving while texting - texting is still the primary activity, it is very obvious to see even when the handsets aren't visible as drivers' eyes switch between looking at their lap area to glimpses of the road ahead.

Then I exited and drove along [redacted] highway where a people carrier sped up to run the red light and turn into the new [redacted] before traffic going south crossed the junction. Not speed related, more stupidity.

As I indicated to turn off [redacted] the car in front of me was also turning - luckily I am psychic and guessed this as the driver elected not to bother with indicators. Yet more poor driving skills, unrelated to speed, but concerning - luckily the drivers coming the other way seemed to also be psychic.

This is the third year in a row I am contacting the minister responsible, and yet again I ask when will government and police actually address the issues of unacceptable skill levels among the vast majority of drivers and stop beating the speed drum?

Kind Regards

[redacted]

----- Forwarded message -----
From: [redacted]
Date: 6 December 2013 at 09:14
Subject: Road rules and speed
To: [redacted]

Good Morning [redacted]

I received a reply from you at the end of last year after I contacted Mr. Brownlee with comments about the government and police attitude to speed, and would like to follow up.

In a year I see nothing has changed other than additional revenue gathering with the current 4km buffer on the speed limit. The government's road safety strategy is a joke. The only thing being targeted is speed. As per my previous email, I reiterate that speed has never injured anyone, the ability to judge speed has injured and killed a great many people.

travel from my home [redacted] every day for work and continue to see the very worst examples of driving ability, on a daily basis, that makes me scream. Just this week I have put up with:

- drivers in the right lane on [redacted] heading north, travelling at approx 80km/h (well under the speed limit) slamming on the brakes about 100m from the off ramp to bully their way into the middle lane, then the left lane, then the off ramp to leave the motorway
- the same thing at [redacted] exit, an [redacted] exit
- drivers speeding up from 70-80km/h when I attempt to overtake, resulting in me cancelling the overtake as I reached 100km/h and they were still increasing speed to prevent me passing

- drivers hogging the right lane even when the left lane was totally empty, and the middle lane had only a few vehicles
- drivers not checking mirrors before changing lanes on the motorway
- drivers not indicating when changing lanes or turning
- drivers joining the motorway from on ramps, then forcing their way to the right lane when both left and centre lanes were empty
- drivers driving while texting (not texting while driving as texting seemed to be the primary activity with driving definitely the secondary activity)
- drivers applying make up while driving
- drivers using cell phones while driving
- drivers bullying into lanes past the point where it was legal and safe to join - for the southern motorway lane leaving the [REDACTED] s9(2)(a)
- one hiace van driver brake tested on the [REDACTED] s9(2)(a) when we were both travelling at between 70 and 80 km/h - had I not been paying attention I would have hit him. When I later passed him, he gestured offensively and I still have no idea what his problem was.
- drivers travelling at 35-40km/h in a 60km/h zone causing delays to all other vehicles when there was no reason for the slowness
- cars parked on pavements blocking pedestrian access
- cars with the driver's seat so far reclined they could barely see over the steering wheel

The list goes on. Incredibly, these are not just car drivers, but often so called professional drivers - truck drivers, bus drivers, taxi drivers, couriers, and in a couple of cases driving instructors, and police cars (without blue lights or sirens on).

[REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

Speed is not an issue. The new reduced tolerance is not relevant, because the drivers who were 30-40 km/h over the limit before are still going to be 30-40 km/h over the limit. I've lived in countries, like Germany, where the national speed limit is considerably higher than here in NZ, parts of Germany had no speed limit when I lived there. They have a much lower road toll than we do. Speed is not the issue, driving ability is.

If the government decides that it really does want to do something about our roads, I'd love to be involved. But please stop pretending speed is the main problem. It isn't. Speed does not harm. 'Speed and ...' harms, speed and alcohol, speed and poor driving skills, speed and drugs, speed and not paying attention. When the government addresses the actual problem - pathetically poor driving skills, then maybe our roads will be safer.

[REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 12:09 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Subject: NOTED : Zero Speed tolerance

NOTED min/p/71

From: Blair Telford
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 12:09 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Subject: Re: Zero Speed tolerance

Dear s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning speed tolerance and road safety.

Your correspondence and suggested changes have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 9:19 a.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Zero Speed tolerance

Dear Honourable Michael Woodhouse

The newspaper this morning said that you were going to be looking into the advertising around the zero speed tolerance undertaken by the Police this summer. We live in [redacted] s9(2)(a) [redacted] would like to put forward some thoughts on the NZ V's Australian approach to travelling that we noticed.

- 1) Australia had a bigger range of speed limits, a lot more in tune with the type of road that you were travelling on. From some 40k limits in very built up areas to regular 60k limits in towns, with 80 – 90 kms open road limits when the road had many bends, thought to 100kms on main roads and 110 kms on motorways. I felt this was a better system as the speed tolerance better matched the type of road.
- 2) In Australia there is no speed differential between towing and non-towing light vehicles.
- 3) In Australia there seemed to be no speed differential for trucks.

- 4) They also included a lot more "small" passing lanes that allowed slower drivers to pull over and allow other drivers to pass.
- 5) In Nelson we are noticing a lot of motorists who are travelling well below the speed limit as they are worried about getting a ticket. This can be clearly seen creating frustration amongst other drivers and frustration results in poor decision making. With un suitable passing manoeuvres etc.
- 6) There is inconsistency between the types of vehicles used for speed camera use, in Canterbury these are highly marked bright yellow and can be seen contributing to road safety. In Nelson the one vehicle (grey van) has been unchanged for many years and is really only being used (by the locations it is parked, ie the bottom of small hills) for revenue gathering.
- 7) The vehicles we all drive have been consistently improving over the years, resulting in faster safer vehicles than ever before, while this is good for the occupants, it has created a position of detachment from the process of driving to the road. It has become quite noticeable that on open clear roads it is quite possible to accidentally slip over the speed limit with no discernible change in performance of the vehicle. This for us has resulted in more use of the cruise control to better monitor speeds.


These are the changes I would like to see to the road safety system in NZ.

- A) Better range of speed limits to suit the terrain and conditions.
- B) Continuation of the 10 km tolerance on speed limits, this allows the slower drivers to maintain the slower speed that they want and more experienced drivers to travel faster if they desire, without being treated like a criminal.
- C) Removal of the speed differential between towing and non-towing vehicles and trucks, this is just creating confusion and is a strange situation where you put vehicles on the same road with no option for passing and able to travel at different speeds.
- D) Better enforcement of the people travelling at extreme speeds ie 20 or 30 kms above the limit.
- E) Increasing the number of "small" lanes to allow drivers the opportunity to pullover and allow others to pass, NZ roads are currently quite restricted in this area.

I think the changes to make the licensing system tougher have been a good improvement, but perhaps a move to "R" type plates on vehicles driven by restricted drivers would improve the uptake of full licenses in a more timely manner.

Regards

s9(2)(a)



s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 12:27 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Review of summer speed tolerance

NOTED min/p/73

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 12:27 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Review of summer speed tolerance

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning road safety.

Your correspondence has been noted.

s9(2)(a)

Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 9:34 a.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Review of summer speed tolerance

Dear Sir,

On behalf of s9(2)(a) congratulate you on calling for a review of the summer speed tolerance.

s9(2)(a)

We support the effort of the Police to try and reduce the road toll although we feel they have blinkers on and tend to overlook the many other aspects of road safety in favour of so called speed control. Perhaps you may not be aware but vehicle speedometers are not usually accurate enough to stand a no tolerance measure. We have tested a few

vehicles and found that s9(2)(a) fairly right although out by a couple of kilometres per hour. s9(2)(a) were measured to be out by up to 10 kilometres per hour. More modern versions are out by 5 kilometres per hour. Others tested were s9(2)(a) None were accurate with the average error being 5 kilometres per hour. This testing was done using a Go 600 Tom Tom navigational device. It is not scientific but gives an idea of a potential problem with zero tolerance.

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a) have lots and lots of ideas on how to improve Road Safety and would prefer to work with Government to achieve this. However, to date we have been fobbed off and remain frustrated by the efforts of so called agencies and government departments who are task with road safety.

The count to date for 2015 is nine road deaths. How many more are needed before you and your colleagues take road safety seriously. If you continue to do the same thing you will continue to get the same result. Could that be another 290 road deaths before the end of 2015. It seems likely given the current road safety thinking.

Talking to us will cost you nothing. Inaction will cost lives, it's your choice.

We believe a road is the means to allow all users to move efficiently and safely from their starting point to their destination. Currently neither apply in New Zealand. We want to change this for all road users.

Kind Regards,

s9(2)(a)

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 12:31 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED : Speed Tolerance Review

NOTED min/p/74

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 12:31 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Speed Tolerance Review

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning the speed tolerance review.

Your correspondence and views have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 9:28 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: (Michael Woodhouse MP) Speed Tolerance Review

Dear Mr Woodhouse,

I read in the news, that the Police's holiday speed tolerance campaign is going to be reviewed by yourself, in your capacity as Minister for Police. The news has indicated that the public find the current situation confusing, and that you would welcome feedback from the public on this issue; so here is my 'ten cent's worth'.

For me, there are a few basic facts that need to be firmly acknowledged:


1) While in a sense, a speed limit should be a limit; that fact is that many cars have speedometers that have less margin for accuracy, than the much publicised '4 kilometres' that now seems to be standard (let alone the holiday tolerance of zero). Even the simple act of changing your tyres to a slightly different profile size (which is often necessary) can affect the workings of a speedometer. There is little sense in doggedly and religiously pushing a tolerance, that cannot be accurately measured by the machines that people drive.

2) Having some of the more insecure drivers on our roads, obsessively staring at their speedometers as they drive, in error that they may inadvertently creep over the speed limit by a kilometre or two and receive a ticket, is hardly a scenario that we need to encourage. The majority of drivers will not be so insecure, but there definitely are those who are. The speedometer distraction that such drivers are encouraged by current policy to indulge in, must surely be equally as dangerous as cellphone distraction. Or driving drunk. It creates a situation that is dangerous for

3) The danger in speed comes from those who are significantly in excess of the limit, not those who are one or two kilometres over. Someone who is driving 'safely' at 50 kilometres in a 50 kilometre zone, does not suddenly become 'dangerous' should their speed creep up to 51 kilometres, or even 53. It is those who ignore speed limits completely, and who zoom around at whatever hugely excessive rate they feel like, who need to be nabbed. The current policy is tunnel-visioned, and targets the wrong people.

4) Excessive speed is just one of many factors that make up crashes. Speed does not cause a crash by itself, unless the speed is exceptionally high. While there are some crashes that are undeniably caused by excessive speed, I believe such crashes to be in the minority. In most cases speed alters how much damage there is when a crash happens, but cannot accurately be named as being the 'cause' itself. Poor behaviour such as general impatience, dangerous overtaking, dogged tailgating, crossing the centre-line, or failure to give way; are generally the primary causes of crashes that are solely attributed to speed. Why is it, that we always hear about speed 'causing' crashes, but seldom hear about the other poor driving that tends to play the real part in causation? The whole picture needs to be presented, not just twisted bits of it.

Out of scope



To close, I will say that I do not find the current policy itself confusing. It is easy enough to understand. The reasoning behind it, however, is very confusing. It seems to be very tunnel-visioned, and it targets the wrong people. Just like the recent lowering of the alcohol level, it irritates those who pose no risk, and misses those who do.

The current policy may be well intentioned, but as the old saying goes, good intentions is what the road to Hell is paved with.

Thank you for reading my comments.

Kind regards,

s9(2)(a)



s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 1:00 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED : Speed limits and 4 km/h tolerance.

NOTED min/p/76

s9(2)(a)
From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 12:59 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Speed limits and 4 km/h tolerance.

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 12 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances. It was referred to this office from the office of Judith Collins.

Your correspondence and views have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 12 January 2015 9:23 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Cc: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Speed limits and 4 km/h tolerance.

Hello Judith.

I see that One News has posted an article on Facebook about a review of the 4km/h speed tolerance. Would you forward my comments to Michael Woodhouse please? (I have had a guess at his email address, but it may be wrong)

I and many people I speak to think that this is the 4 km/h tolerance is ridiculous, especially when some of our speed limits are too low. It is just so hard to keep below that 4 km/h. Some people say "Well don't speed, Keep to the limit", but on some of

our roads that is extremely difficult as the roads are so good, and 50, 60 80, 100 km/h limits are too slow.

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

How many of those fatal accidents were caused solely by people going 5 km/h over the speed limit? I would hazard a guess and say none. As a retired policeman who attended dozens of fatal motor accidents in my 32 years service. I know that the accidents were caused by drivers travelling at well in excess of the speed limits, and/or under the influence of alcohol, and/or fatigue or stupidity or carelessness. 4 km/h tolerance is ridiculous. If our speed limits were like overseas, 110 km/h on motorways, 60 km/h on arterial roads (they already are in some places

s9(2)(a)

Putting speed cameras at the bottom of hills, where there is no road safety reason to brake, like in (which was 100 km/h until about three years ago) your speed creeps up unintentionally and you spend more time watching your speedo than watching the road. Now that is ridiculous

s9(2)(a)

Many thanks

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 1:03 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED : Speed policies

NOTED min/p/77

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 1:03 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Speed policies

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances.

Your correspondence and views have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 10:43 a.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Speed policies

Unlike Ron Mark s9(2)(a) applaud the low tolerance policy.

This year going to and from the Coromandel several times over the holiday period, I found the traffic travelling at a steady pace, overtaking only on passing lanes, even camper vans pulling over to let us through and no crazy speeds.

I felt safer this year than I have for years and for once enjoyed the drives without worrying whether I was going to make it to my destination alive.

If the low tolerance means we are carefully watching our speed and we all slow down a bit as a result, then my experience this year shows it makes our roads safer and much more pleasant.

Please don't discourage the police from this policy as it certainly worked this summer to give us better driving, despite the tragic accidents which I expect will always be part of our holiday periods.

Kind regards

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

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s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 1:06 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED : police holiday roading policies

NOTED min/p/78

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 1:06 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: police holiday roading policies

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning speed tolerances.

Your correspondence and views been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 11:14 a.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: police holiday roading policies

Hi Michael!

I am another National party supporter who is pleased you are reviewing this operational matter as announced!

It seems to me that whenever I speak to the Police on duty about their policies such as 1% sped tolerance etc, they just don't want to know they have lost us average motorist's confidence and ability to police in a manner which is effective.

I don't understand how their "operational matters" are set in concrete, and whether setting a 1% tolerance requires Government approval, but maybe it does.

Police roading manager Dave Cliff was quoted on "Stuff" last week that their policies were based on "sound research"!!! Now that covers a myriad of sins! Tell us stupid public about the research - we're not

that stupid that we can't understand what they're trying to do and what it's based on. As Prime Minister Key says .. "show us the research!"

I'm of the firm view that they should not be wasting their time punishing motorists for being 1% over the speed limit - they would be far better pulling slow motorists off the road and ticketing them they cause pent up frustration in motoring which does lead to bad decision making - eg unsafe passing I travelled from [REDACTED] s9(2)(a) [REDACTED] over the xmas period and we had a queue I don't know how long held up by a slow motorist travelling at 70 - 80kph and they wouldn't move over. And if you know the road you'll know there's not many places to pass .. and where there is a long straight, there's a cop sitting there pinging motorists for doing more than 100kph in getting past!! It doesn't make sense!

So look forward to your bringing them into line and get them back on our side I don't condone them pinging the public for bad / inconsiderate driving, but let's be realistic in the enforcement of the law. I've spent more time watching my speedo this summer than I have the road in front of me - now is that safe motoring??? I don't think so!!

Cheers

[REDACTED] s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 1:19 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Subject: NOTED: Regarding the Speed Campaign

NOTED min/p/80

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 1:19 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Subject: Re: Regarding the Speed Campaign

Dear s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 Jan 15 concerning the Police speed campaign.

Your correspondence and views have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 12:31 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]>
Subject: Regarding the Speed Campaign

To Michael Woodhouse, MP

Good day,

After reading some of the news articles and opinions on speed enforcement in New Zealand I feel I must express my views to you as Minister of Police. It is my belief that the approach to speed enforcement is not altogether ideal. In summary:

- Speed is only a variable which magnifies or diminishes the consequence of poor decisions or lack of awareness.

- Less than adequate driving skills are too prevalent (poor awareness, anticipation, driving to the conditions, courtesy).

- Conflicted message of 100kmh-focus enforcement versus perceptions of capability (vehicular and personal).

- Promote and even routinely test for advanced driving skills.

- Common sense management of enforcement (eg overtaking)

Speed, it is claimed, kills. What I believe is that it is poor decision-making and lack of awareness which creates the situations that result in deaths. Speed itself is a variable factor which can either exacerbate or mitigate the consequences of a poor decision or lack of awareness. It is far too simplistic an approach to say anyone going over 100kmh is going too fast. Some roads and conditions are suitable for that.

I believe a fundamental flaw in the approach of prioritising and publicising campaigns against speeders is, fundamentally many Kiwi's feel confident in both their own driving skills and the capabilities of their modern, safe cars. Simple speed enforcement alone does not address this and may well subconsciously be ignored. The capabilities of modern vehicles in both acceleration and braking mean a vehicle is capable of being driven safely at high speed, in appropriate conditions of course.

Out of scope

There also need to be a greater degree of common sense applied to speed enforcement. A prime example I believe is in the case of overtaking. To pass a vehicle travelling at 90kmh (truck and car-trailer speed limit), it takes another vehicle an excessive distance to pass safely without breaking the 100kmh limit. There are very few straight roads long enough to do this safely. It is simple maths. The 10kmh speed difference equates to 2.7m per second distance differential between two vehicles. Take a truck and trailer unit to be the maximum for NZ roads as 20m, and add an additional 10m front and rear for safe clearance, it will take 14.8 seconds to safely pass. In that time the overtaking vehicle will have travelled over 411m. In real terms that duration and that distance travelling on the wrong side of the road could in many circumstances be unsafe. Many overtaking lanes are not that length. To pass at a higher speed of 105-110kmh would significantly reduce that time exposed to danger.

What New Zealand needs is to step away from a rather simplistic approach to simple speed enforcement, and to develop and introduce measures designed to encourage and enforce uptake of advanced driver training, improved decision-making and greater safe-driving awareness. Safe does not mean slow. Safe means in full, appropriate control at all times.

Thank you for your time

Regards

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 1:21 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: DNR: Zero tolerance

DNR min/p/81

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 12:53 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Zero tolerance

Sorry, another one.

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 11:50 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Zero tolerance

I would like to let you know Mr woodhous that i and a lot of my friends are very angry over your and the police behavior over the xmas holidays. Bullying us and turning good kiwis into criminals 'we all feel that you are turning nz into some kind of totalaterion police state . Yours truly pissed of former national voter

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 8:25 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED FW: Police Zero Speed Tolerance Campaign

NOTED min/p/90

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 8:25 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Police Zero Speed Tolerance Campaign

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning the Police zero speed tolerance campaign.

Your correspondence and views have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 4:19 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Cc: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Police Zero Speed Tolerance Campaign

Dear Minister

I had drafted the email below but before sending it I read this morning of the review you have requested. I am still sending it to you as the comments and observations I have made I believe are still relevant. I like many others was under the impression that there was no tolerance. The police message was certainly not clearly communicated.

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11379594

The article above by Rodney Hide on "Little thought in speed law" provoked the most common discussion subject I experienced over the Christmas holiday period. The sentiments expressed by Rodney Hide were universally shared.

The road toll in this country has come down significantly in recent years despite a very significant increase in the number of vehicles on the road due to the relative decline in the cost of cars. Improved

vehicle safety has been I believe the major contributor to this. Ron Mark commented on this in his article on the Speed limit.

I drove during the holiday period from [REDACTED] s9(2)(a) [REDACTED] The traffic flowed well and I did not see any excessive speeding. Drivers distracted by the scenery and not just overseas visitors was as always an issue

The most dangerous driving I saw however related to passing of slow traffic by drivers, particularly in the McKenzie Country, as they kept below the 100 km speed limit and would run out of safe road.

Traffic that was driving below the speed limit and not pulling over saw long lines of traffic and some dangerous passing resulted. More effort to deal with this issue and other factors other than just speed would make for safer roads

New Zealand drivers with a few exceptions are responsible and do not drive a car with the intention of killing themselves. The need to be able to complete a passing manoeuvre safely and quickly both for themselves and other motorists is I am sure in every drivers mind when they pass and is more important than them worrying about exceeding the speed limit by 1 km.

My concern is that road safety relies on public support and acceptance of the road rules including speed limits. The current speed zero tolerance policy does engender public support and is counter productive. Police officers have exercised discretion in the past, in my view responsibly, so what has changed? Not the quality of our police force I hope.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 9:28 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED FW: Observations.

NOTED min/p/91

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 9:28 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Observations.

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning the Police enforcement of speed.

Your correspondence and views have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 11:04 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Observations.

Dear Minister, I note there's been much discussion regarding the 'Zero- tolerance' programme by the Police this holiday season, most of it not very complimentary. While agreeing the results from high speed crashes are horrendous and far reaching, and I admire the Police for doing 'something', I'd very much like to add something from my own driving experience over the holiday period.

I've been driving for over 40 years, but in many ways this season was the most difficult from my point of view....

s9(2)(a)

Being limited to 90 kph is not a problem for me, but was for following traffic I assumed, so, on many occasions I slowed, and pulled over to let the traffic through when it was safe to do so, passing lane or none. The issues arose with the traffic either NOT overtaking, or overtaking SO SLOWLY, (presumably avoiding exceeding the 100k limit) that many times it became just plain dangerous with traffic not overtaking QUICKLY and returning to the left side (SAFE SIDE !) of the road.

While many did not exceed the limit, there were times that the FOLLOWING DISTANCES of the more

impatient members of the overtaking traffic was really scary.

Often I ran out of road and had to come to a complete stop to let the traffic clear, sometimes in not the safest of situations.

By the time we were on the homeward journey I confess I was a little less keen on letting the traffic behind through as often, I figured they were safer behind, providing they weren't TOO close, than overtaking badly. We have done this trip many times in the past, with nothing like the dangerous situations we found ourselves, and others in, this season.

The only way I can see to help this situation is for the Police to be less strict enforcing limits on overtaking vehicles so they can pass, clear the overtaking lane and get back to the left side ASAP! (And perhaps be more strict on tailgaters, because they're out there in droves and they scare the hell out of me!)

Sincerely yours

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 1:36 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: NOTED: Zero Tolerance Policy

s9(2)(a)

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)@police.govt.nz]
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 1:35 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: NOTED: Zero Tolerance Policy

s9(2)(a)

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz]
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 13:35
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Zero Tolerance Policy

NOTED: Min/p/94

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 1:34 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Zero Tolerance Policy

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning police messaging in relation to speed tolerance and other aspects of road policing.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

Out of scope

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 8:18 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Cc: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Zero Tolerance Policy

The Minister of Police,
Wellington.

Dear Sir.

I note your current comment and requirement for your department to clarify their confusing message.

The message needs renewing, not clarifying! For a number of years the message has been the same - 'Speed kills'. There are many other factors involved, beside speed, which lead to accidents and fatalities eg inferior vehicle tires, poor roading, ill placed utility poles.

In addition, there is also the factor of driver skills, not only in 'reading' the road, but also able to know their vehicle and control it.

The message is tired and needs a new approach. The latest fiasco has shown your department lacks the skills for such matters, and the heavy handed threatening approach has a negative effect with many motorists.

Besides a new approach, I would suggest those personnel involved should be retired and replaced!

Sadly for your department, their public relations image has taken a huge hit with the public. They were recovering ground from the days of mid term the previous Labour Government, when they came across as being arrogant, endeavouring to defend again, their speed camera stance.

Right now, their said aim is to save lives. This is very commendable.

However, their practise of using unsignposted cameras in so called danger spots, means the focus is on catching and 'ticketing' offenders, rather than safety. To put this more plainly, it is to boost statistics and revenue collecting!

Surely if there are danger spots, advice to motorists that a speed camera is operating within for example, the next 5 km, would warn motorists of the dangerous conditions ahead, and consequently, have the desired effect of lowering speed. These signs could be as simple as a 'sandwich board' design.

The police need public support. They do themselves no favours when they introduce a policy for which the general public does not appreciate and support, especially having now seen the disastrous failure of the current policy.

Speedometers in cars are not accurate. Personally, I prefer to use the speed recorded on a GPS. The police statement that a GPS speed is not accurate and would not be accepted, again shows their inability to be progressive and looking forward.

The police should be aiming to issue less infringements, not more, if they are serious about safety. Other than alcohol related policy, I see no effort to deal with other issues. For example, slow drivers heading a long queue of vehicles unable to pass is not addressed. I have seen the result of this situation many times with drivers following becoming frustrated and taking risks, some huge. This situation is in my opinion, less safe and far more hazardous than exceeding the speed limit by a few kilometres per hour. This is an example of but one situation which needs addressing.

As you are no doubt aware, our maximum speed limit is lower than in many countries. If the police policy was to keep traffic moving, this would be a positive move. I have noted that when the traffic is flowing at say 100/105 km/hr, driver behaviour is far more responsible, and thus safer.

I suggest your approach to rectifying this absolute disaster we experienced over Christmas/New Year, includes a 'please explain'. If the problem was speed with a zero tolerance policy in place, the result just gone has been an absolute dismal failure on more than one front.

Along with a significant portion of the motoring public, I look forward to renewed policies to assist the public.

Government departments are in existence to assist and protect the country's citizens, and not become dictatorial and remote due to introducing unreasonable policy.

Heads should roll for this and I look forward to reading of this in the near future. I also look forward to the introduction of a more innovative and understanding approach to road safety in the future. The current approach is tired and not working - other than as a revenue stream.

Yours faithfully,

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

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WARNING

The information contained in this email message is intended for the addressee only and may contain privileged information. It may also be subject to the provisions of section 50 of the Policing Act 2008, which creates an offence to have unlawful possession of Police property. If you are not the intended recipient of this message or have received this message in error, you must not peruse, use, distribute or copy this message or any of its contents. Also note, the views expressed in this message may not necessarily reflect those of the New Zealand Police. If you have received this message in error, please email or telephone the sender immediately

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 1:35 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Zero Tolerance Policy

NOTED: Min/p/94

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 1:34 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Zero Tolerance Policy

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning police messaging in relation to speed tolerance and other aspects of road policing.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 8:18 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Cc: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Zero Tolerance Policy

The Minister of Police,
Wellington.

Dear Sir.

I note your current comment and requirement for your department to clarify their confusing message. The message needs renewing, not clarifying! For a number of years the message has been the same - 'Speed kills'. There are many other factors involved, beside speed, which lead to accidents and fatalities eg inferior vehicle tires, poor roading, ill placed utility poles.

In addition, there is also the factor of driver skills, not only in 'reading' the road, but also able to know their vehicle and control it.

The message is tired and needs a new approach. The latest fiasco has shown your department lacks the skills for such matters, and the heavy handed threatening approach has a negative effect with many motorists.

Besides a new approach, I would suggest those personnel involved should be retired and replaced!

Sadly for your department, their public relations image has taken a huge hit with the public. They were recovering ground from the days of mid term the previous Labour Government, when they came across as being arrogant, endeavouring to defend again, their speed camera stance.

Right now, their said aim is to save lives. This is very commendable.

However, their practise of using unsignposted cameras in so called danger spots, means the focus is on catching and 'ticketing' offenders, rather than safety. To put this more plainly, it is to boost statistics and revenue collecting! Surely if there are danger spots, advice to motorists that a speed camera is operating within for example, the next 5 km, would warn motorists of the dangerous conditions ahead, and consequently, have the desired effect of lowering speed. These signs could be as simple as a 'sandwich board' design.

The police need public support. They do themselves no favours when they introduce a policy for which the general public does not appreciate and support, especially having now seen the disastrous failure of the current policy. Speedometers in cars are not accurate. Personally, I prefer to use the speed recorded on a GPS . The police statement that a GPS speed is not accurate and would not be accepted, again shows their inability to be progressive and looking forward.

The police should be aiming to issue less infringements, not more, if they are serious about safety. Other than alcohol related policy, I see no effort to deal with other issues. For example, slow drivers heading a long queue of vehicles unable to pass is not addressed. I have seen the result of this situation many times with drivers following becoming frustrated and taking risks, some huge. This situation is in my opinion, less safe and far more hazardous than exceeding the speed limit by a few kilometres per hour. This is an example of but one situation which needs addressing.

As you are no doubt aware, our maximum speed limit is lower than in many countries. If the police policy was to keep traffic moving, this would be a positive move. I have noted that when the traffic is flowing at say 100/105 km/hr, driver behaviour is far more responsible, and thus safer.

I suggest your approach to rectifying this absolute disaster we experienced over Christmas/New Year, includes a 'please explain'. If the problem was speed with a zero tolerance policy in place, the result just gone has been an absolute dismal failure on more than one front.

Along with a significant portion of the motoring public, I look forward to renewed policies to assist the public. Government departments are in existence to assist and protect the country's citizens, and not become dictatorial and remote due to introducing unreasonable policy.

Heads should roll for this and I look forward to reading of this in the near future. I also look forward to the introduction of a more innovative and understanding approach to road safety in the future. The current approach is tired and not working - other than as a revenue stream.

Yours faithfully,

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 1:25 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: NO TOLERANCE: Police have confirmed that there will be no tolerance for motorists just over the speed limit during the Christmas-New Year holidays.

NOTED min/p/93

Also see previous direct min/p/05 from same person.

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 1:21 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: NO TOLERANCE: Police have confirmed that there will be no tolerance for motorists just over the speed limit during the Christmas-New Year holidays.

Dear s9(2)(a)

On behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, I acknowledge your further email of 13 January 2015 concerning the NZ Police policy on speed tolerance.

Your correspondence has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)
Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 10:24 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: RE: NO TOLERANCE: Police have confirmed that there will be no tolerance for motorists just over the speed limit during the Christmas-New Year holidays.

It is interesting to note that you have finally responded through the media to public concerns regarding this issue.

However, I believe that the excuse you have given to public reaction is simply a way out of a very bad mistake made by NZ Police Commissioner 'Mike Bush' who signed it off. The Zero tolerance policy was published throughout the media, and there was no confusion regarding that in so far as the average driver was concerned.

The feedback given regarding this policy from the beginning was totally ignored and it is difficult to understand why, you did not take 'Confusion' on board initially if you were concerned and why you did not make your opinions known at that time to the Commissioner of Police.

In the meantime, our 'Thin Blue Line' are losing credibility. They are perceived to be sitting on the side of the road for traffic violations rather than focusing on Law and Order.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 2:50 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Zero tolerance

NOTED: Min/p/99

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 2:49 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Zero tolerance

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning the Police zero speed tolerance campaign over the holiday period.

Your correspondence and views about the campaign have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 11:56 a.m.
To: Out of scope
Subject: Zero tolerance

Would like to let you know my friends and myself are very upset and annoyed at your and the police bullying behavior over the Xmas holiday with this zero tolerance .it has not worked this reeks of Helen Clark and her nanny state maybe I should start vote labor as national have become big headed bullies in their 3rd team 'yous until sincerely former national voter

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 2:41 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Police zero tolerance on speed limit
Attachments: photo 1.JPG; ATT00001.txt; photo 2.JPG; ATT00002.txt

NOTED: Min/p/98

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 2:39 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Police zero tolerance on speed limit

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning the Police zero speed tolerance campaign.

Your correspondence and views have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 11:41:07 p.m.
To: michael.woodhouse@national.org.nz
Subject: Police zero tolerance on speed limit

Michael

This policy is just ridiculous and a waste of police time and resource. We've had a van lurking around in our Glendowie neighbourhood over recent weeks.

I've ended up with two fines for minimal variances to the limit. See attached. I wouldn't be surprised if the majority of s9(2)(a) drivers were hit over the Xmas period... And I also wouldn't be at all surprised if I get more letters with more fines. I wonder if I'll get pinged for being 1km over.

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) @parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 4:26 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Traffic control

Importance: High

NOTED: Min/p/102

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 4:26 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: re: Traffic control
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 14 January 2015 concerning NZ Police's zero tolerance speed campaign over the holiday period.

Your correspondence and views have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely,

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 2:42 p.m.
To: M Woodhouse
Subject: Traffic control

Dear Minister,

I'm emailing you as a law abiding citizen, working for a crust, and having a healthy respect for the 'people in blue', [redacted] Out of scope

I do think that the emphasis on speed monitoring is out of proportion. There is way too much focus on controlling the minor speed stuff, which involves mainly working class people. As a typical example I provide the speed camera set up before 7am on the Northern motorway between Silverdale and Oteha Valley off-ramp on Tuesday 13 January.

I live in s9(2)(a) and this drive through s9(2)(a) twice a day, which is also a 'happy hunting ground', despite the fact it is perfectly safe to travel at 120 kms per hour. To keep this email in perspective: I have not received a speeding ticket since 1993, despite traveling 30000 kms per year.

I believe that this approach erodes the support people have for the NZ Police.

With respect, I ask you not to give a standard reply that speed kills. I'm aware of the more in-depth explanations behind our continuing high road toll. Issues, which can't be resolved by speeding cameras set up at times of the day when people travel to and from work.

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 15 January 2015 12:24 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED: Speed limit/road toll
Attachments: s9(2)(a)

Importance: High

NOTED min/p/111

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 15 January 2015 12:24 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Speed limit/road toll
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 14 January 2015 concerning the Police policy on zero tolerance.

Your correspondence, views and ideas have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 12:57 p.m.
To: michael.woodhouse@national.org.nz
Subject: Speed limit/road toll

Hello Michael.

I wish to voice my opinion regarding the Police zero tolerance. Personally I am totally against it. I actually wonder whether the government is using it as a form of tax. And to top it off, only this AM I was passed on the left, (2 lane road) by a Police patrol car, who was not using lights and siren, when I was sitting on the speed limit for fear of a ticket. Talk about rules for "them" and "us"!

Out of scope


Out of scope

Out of scope

Just a few thoughts, and trust you can bring about a solution that will lower the road toll.

Kind regards

s9(2)(a)



RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Thursday, 15 January 2015 12:20 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED : Police speeding tolerance policy

Importance: High

NOTED min/p/110

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 15 January 2015 12:19 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Police speeding tolerance policy
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 13 January 2015 concerning Police policy on speed tolerances.

Your correspondence and views have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 January 2015 9:47 a.m.
To: Hon Michael Woodhouse
Subject: Police speeding tolerance policy

If the road deaths statistics had shown a decrease over the recent holiday period the police would have claimed the credit because of their zero tolerance speed enforcement policy. The facts show that there was a considerable increase in road deaths compared with recent years. What everyone with any common sense knows now and probably knew before, is that the causes of road deaths have absolutely nothing to do with the police strict enforcement of speeding rules.

The police have a difficult enough job already in building and maintaining public support for their important place in society. Their well publicised efforts to strictly enforce the speeding laws did nothing to reduce the road toll and did everything to antagonise law abiding road users. The policy not only needs reviewing but those responsible for failing to understand the implications of the policy should be demoted to a less damaging role in the police.

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 15 January 2015 2:14 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED FW: mixed messages regarding speeding
Importance: High

NOTED min/p/117

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 15 January 2015 2:13 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: mixed messages regarding speeding
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 14 January concerning mixed messages regarding speeding.

Your correspondence and views have been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 14 January 2015 9:59 p.m.
To: Hon Michael Woodhouse
Subject: mixed messages regarding speeding

Dear Minister

I am writing about the new mixed messages related to the speed limit and speeding. These are messages of your own creation. I am also writing about scaremongering regarding international drivers.

I listened to Radio National the other morning, and believe I heard you say that the Police speed campaign resulted in people being unclear about what the speed limit was. I have also just read a quote from the New Zealand Herald that reports you as saying:
He "firmly" supported a zero-speed tolerance for "poor driving behaviour that could lead to death and injury". (http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11385448)

It is my understanding that the speed limit is that which is written on the road signs, on the road - It is not the tolerance limit or the point at which someone's driving becomes poor.

The law is the law, and the speed limit is clearly identified on road signs. Surely communications on this matter should focus on the law, noting that it sets the limit people drive to or otherwise run the risk of having accidents or being fined.

I personally cannot see any value on spending tax payer money on a review about "confusion" that you are contributing to. What about spending that money on fixed speed cameras or red light cameras? Or on training more traffic police? Or on real research about the causes of accidents and injuries? Or on initiatives that have been proven to reduce accidents and injuries?

Out of scope

regards

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) @parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 15 January 2015 2:45 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED FW: Speed Limits on open roads.

Importance: High

NOTED / min / 120

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 15 January 2015 2:45 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Speed Limits on open roads.
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 15 January 2015 concerning speed limits on open roads.

Your correspondence and feedback has been noted. Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 15 January 2015 10:37 a.m.
To: Hon Michael Woodhouse
Cc: s9(2)(a)
Subject: Speed Limits on open roads.

To the NZ Police Commissioner
Police National HQ
Wellington.

Dear Police Commissioner,

I watched the news the other day (TV 1) when you were on saying that Police got it wrong about the zero tolerance for speeding over the 100 k limit, well sir you did not get it wrong, I was not confused at all, in fact I congratulate Police on this issue, for far to long people have ignored the speed limits all over the country. The fact of the matter the way I see it is very simple- the maximum speed limit on the open road is 100k's, what part of that do people not understand, if you go over this you should get an infringement notice as you would for exceeding any other speed limit in cities and towns, school areas, and a like. If people want to speed and make the roads more dangerous then the Police should ticket this offense, no tolerance at all, zero, all the time and all over the country the same. People saying that they were confused does not wash it with me, what is so confusing about the speed limit being 100k's, nothing at all, just silly people who don't like to comply with the road laws. I would ask you to reconsider this and bring it in, zero, no excuse, full stop. I you go over the limit what ever and where ever it is you will pay for your actions. So sir you did not get it wrong at all, I was not confused at all, it was very simple really, people who are confused about the speed limit should

not drive and get off the road to make it safer for the ones like me that do not speed and can tell the difference between 100k's and 104 k's. That's it in a nutshell. You are all doing a great job.

Regards,

s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a) <[redacted]@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 20 January 2015 8:55 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED FW: Road Toll and Policing

NOTED min/p/138

From: Blair Telford
Sent: Tuesday, 20 January 2015 8:55 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Road Toll and Policing

Dear s9(2)(a)

I am writing on behalf of Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister of Police, who has asked me to acknowledge your email of 17 January 2015 concerning road toll and policing. Your correspondence and views have been noted.

Thank you for taking the time to write to the Minister of Police.

Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Saturday, 17 January 2015 5:55 p.m.
To: Out of scope
Subject: Road Toll and Policing

Hello Out of scope, I understand that this email will be passed on to the minister.
s9(2)(a)

Many speedos are not accurate, and the zero tolerance is a total waste of time when stupidity outways logic.

On the coast road, it needs to be heavily policed for slow drivers, campervans, tourists who drive on the incorrect side of the roadway and pass when trucks are trying to enter the tunnels.

No wonder there are fatalities, not only in our region.

These things happen on a regular basis, and need to be addressed in a proper manner.

BUT to get respect from the general public using our roads, the Patrol Officers need to sharpen up their game and tactics also, to set an example for road safety.

Out of scope

The blessings for having dash cams, gps monitoring and cruise control.
Any thoughts will be appreciated.

Cheers s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 21 January 2015 3:30 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: NOTED FW: Speed Limits on open roads.
Importance: High

NOTED min/p/152

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 21 January 2015 11:30 a.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Speed Limits on open roads.
Importance: High

Dear s9(2)(a)

Please find attached the response I sent to you from the Minister of Police on the 15 January 2015.

Kind regards

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
4.5 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington
Parliament Buildings | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160

Authorised by Michael Woodhouse MP, 333 Princes Street, Dunedin

-----Original Message-----

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 21 January 2015 8:36 a.m.
To: Hon Michael Woodhouse
Cc: s9(2)(a)
Subject: no human reply from the NZ Police Commissioner

Hi Sir,

I sent you an email on 15/01/2015 about speed on the open road, 100k's, and to date I have had NO human reply from you or your office, I find this to be rather rude, if someone takes the time to write to you the least you can do is reply, some how your non reply does not surprise me, a lot of Govt. are rather hopeless with communicating with the public- are you one of those to. Below a copy of what I send you-

To the NZ Police Commissioner
Police National HQ
Wellington.

Dear Police Commissioner,
I watched the news the other day (TV 1) when you were on saying that Police got it wrong about the zero tolerance for speeding over the

100 k limit, well sir you did not get it wrong, I was not confused at all, in fact I congratulate Police on this issue, for far to long people have ignored the speed limits all over the country. The fact of the matter the way I see it is very simple- the maximum speed limit on the open road is 100k's, what part of that do people not understand, if you go over this you should get an infringement notice as you would for exceeding any other speed limit in cities and towns, school areas, and a like. If people want to speed and make the roads more dangerous then the Police should ticket this offense, no tolerance at all, zero, all the time and all over the country the same. People saying that they were confused does not wash it with me, what is so confusing about the speed limit being 100k's, nothing at all, just silly people who don't like to comply with the road laws. I would ask you to reconsider this and bring it in, zero, no excuse, full stop. I you go over the limit what ever and where ever it is you will pay for your actions. So sir you did not get it wrong at all, I was not confused at all, it was very simple really, people who are confused about the speed limit should not drive and get off the road to make it safer for the ones like me that do not speed and can tell the difference between 100k's and 104 k's. Thats it in a nut shell.
You are all doing a great job.

Regards,

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 15 January 2015 2:45 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Speed Limits on open roads.
Importance: High

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Yours sincerely

s9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (Police) | Office of the Hon Michael Woodhouse MP | Minister of Police
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Regards

s9(2)(a)

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