

12 July 2016

Dan Hawke

fyi-request-4101-263f1c92@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Hawke

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

I refer to your letter of 4 June 2016 in which you requested information about research or projects undertaken or underway to access the feasibility and/or effectiveness of reporting crime online.

I have considered your request in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982. Your request and Police's response is below.

1. A list of research or projects undertaken or underway to assess the feasibility and/or effectiveness of reporting crime online.

Police are in the early stages of investigating opportunities of providing a service to the public where they can report crime and incidents online. A request has been presented to the Police Investment Board to fund that study and produce a business case outlining options and benefits. An outcome of that request is not expected until August 2016 at the earliest.

2. The results of any research or projects completed so far, or the estimated completion dates of any projects currently in progress; and

3. The results of any research, communications, or comparison done with other law enforcement agencies overseas regarding reporting crime online.

As above, no research or project has yet been started, however some basic information has been obtained from other policing jurisdictions that has formed part of the proposal currently with the Police Investment Board. The initial research indicates a good level of public desire for online reporting. Online reporting of crime will be an additional way for the public to make contact with police, but is not seen as replacing the primary means of contact being face to face and telephone.

4. Any statistics or research held by NZ Police regarding the proportion of crimes that are currently unreported, ideally divided by victim age groups.

I have no statistics or research regarding the proportion of crime unreported in New Zealand. However it is generally acknowledged that most crime types, some more than others, are under-reported. Statistics New Zealand run studies of Crime

Victimisation patterns in New Zealand, their results are broken down into age, sex, ethnicity and house hold type.

www.stats.govt.nz/~media/Statistics/browse.../people.../crime.../crime...nz/cvpnz.pdf

The Ministry of Justice also review and analyse the reporting of crime and further information can be located on the web at:

<http://www.justice.govt.nz/publications/global-publications/n/new-zealand-crime-and-safety-survey-2014/survey-results/reporting-crime>

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Coster', with a large flourish at the end.

Andrew Coster
Assistant Commissioner: Strategy and Transformation