



7 February 2017

Ref: AFS 17/241/3

David Johnston
fyi.org

C/- fyi-request-5250-8fa53221@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Johnston

Re: Official Information Act Request re Cannabis

I refer to your Official Information Act request received via email on 22 January 2017 in relation to 'Search warrants seeking cannabis, where electricity monitoring is mentioned'. You sought the following information:

1. Can you please provide, for the years 2015 and 2016, all search warrants, and related documents, where:
 - The object of the search warrant included cannabis
 - The monitoring of the address's electricity usage is mentioned in either the search warrant, or related documentation.

Police undertake thousands of search warrants per year for a wide range of offences including cannabis related offending. However we do not collect the information you seek as we have no business reason for that level of data. Therefore your request is refused pursuant to section 18(e) of the Official Information Act as the information does not exist.

Further, to identify and collate all search warrants and related documents across New Zealand to identify if we hold any such data would require significant police resources and substantial manual data extraction (we would have to go through each search warrant and document separately). The costs of collating this one aspect would be significant to the requestor and may be of little benefit.

Therefore, where small amounts of data may exist, that part of your request is refused pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act because the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

I note that this is the third such request you have submitted seeking significant amounts of data across a wide time frame. If you have further such requests can you please supply a contact phone number so police can discuss how they might be able to assist you with your requests.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely

P Berry
Detective Inspector
Wellington