



Reference: 16-7758-8

10 April 2017

Mark Hanna

Fyi-request-5580-3b46902d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Hanna,

On 18th March 2017 you sent an email to the New Zealand police requesting three specific pieces of information relating to Taser training. Your request was pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982. That specified request for information was:

1. The total number of police officers qualified to use a Taser, broken down by month since Taser was first introduced until the last month data is available;
2. If there are multiple levels of qualification for the Taser, then please break down the data by qualification;
3. The number of police officers that are eligible to qualify for using a Taser, regardless of whether they hold a qualification or not.

Additionally you requested that the information be released in MS Excel format (csv or xlsx format).

In relation to request 1, Police do not hold this information in the format where it is broken down by month, it doesn't exist in that format. Inspector Ross contacted you on 23 March 2017 and advised you of this and that the information exists in a format broken down by year. You subsequently revised your information request to:

- '...information broken down by year instead of month for part 1 of my request if that's the most granular data that's available. Please also include a clarification on the definition of a year for this data (e.g. 1st January - 31st December, or 1st April - 31st March etc). Since part 2 is intended to be used as a baseline of comparison for part 1, I'm happy for the breakdown of this information to be the same as for part 1'.

I have now considered your revised request relating to parts 1 & 3 of your original request, and part 2 of your original request.

- 1. The total number of police officers qualified to use a Taser, broken down by year since Taser was first introduced until the last year data is available;**

This data relates to Constabulary police officers in the New Zealand police. It does not include Authorised police officers or temporarily sworn police officers (as defined in the Policing Act 2008).

The data outlines, by year (31 March to 31 March), the total number of Constabulary police officers certified (qualified) to use a Taser. This includes Constables certified as Taser operators and instructors of both the X26 and X2 devices.

The data is also attached to the reply email as a MS excel file.

Snapshot Date	TASER_CERTIFIED in any type (ITX2, ITX26, ITAS, MTAS, IDTAS, TASX and FTAS)
31/03/2010	1,022
31/03/2011	3,313
31/03/2012	3,965
31/03/2013	5,152
31/03/2014	4,665
31/03/2015	5,389
31/03/2016	5,661
31/03/2017	7,362

2. If there are multiple levels of qualification for the Taser, then please break down the data by qualification.

As per the information in information request 1, there is only one certification (qualification) for Taser use in the New Zealand police, Taser Operator. Taser instructors are operators.

3. The number of police officers that are eligible to qualify for using a Taser, regardless of whether they hold a qualification or not.

All Constabulary members of police are eligible to qualify for using a Taser. Police are funded for a resource allocation target of 8907.

Yours sincerely



Superintendent Chris Scahill
National Manager: Response and Operations