



Police National Headquarters
180 Molesworth Street, PO Box 3017, Wellington 6011
Phone +64 4 474 9499 Fax +64 4 8191295

Ref:17/8398

10 August 2017

Mitchell East

C/- fyi-request-6136-66889140@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr East

I refer to your Official Information Act request received 5 July 2017 received by email seeking the following information:

1. I am requesting any general internal guidelines or policies governing the use of undercover investigations by the New Zealand Police and in particular those that relate to the "Crime Scenario Undercover Technique" (or so-called "Mr. Big operation").

I understand that there is a public interest in protecting police undercover operations. However, I do not seek information about how those guidelines or policies have been applied in any individual case. Rather, the guidelines and policies I am requesting are general constraints and therefore will not reveal anything about the specifics of an investigation.

Firstly our apologies for the delay in responding. It would appear that a clerical error held up the processing of your request.

In respect of your request, police will not make public information contained in the Undercover Procedures Manual as to do so would only serve to provide criminals with information on how the programme works. This would place our members at risk and would not be in the public interest. Therefore your request is refused pursuant to section 6(c) of the Official Information Act as the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law including the prevention, investigation and detection of offences.

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

T Anderson
National Crime Manager