



18 October 2017

Mr Malcom Lock
fyi-request-6566-51bb7a28@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Lock

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

I refer to your emails dated 18 September 2017 and 18 October 2017 in which you requested –

I would like to make a correction to my original official information act request. I stated that the suppressor was returned to the owner, as I have been advised this is incorrect and the suppressor is also missing. I do apologize for this mis-information in the original request.

During a domestic incident in northern rural Hawke's Bay with in the last 12 months the Hawke's Bay policing team seized several firearms from a property. Amongst these firearms were two Gervarm semiautomatic .22 rifles. No charges were laid against anyone from the property or involved in the incident but police continued to retain the firearms for an extended period. Once a well know firearms lawyer was engaged, most of the firearms were returned to the lawful owner. All except one, a Gervarm semiautomatic .22 rifle. This rifle was seized with a suppressor attached. The suppressor that was attached was returned to the owner.

Questions

- 1. Has the Gervarm firearm been located? if so where was it located*
- 2. Why was it not in the same location as the other seized firearms from the same incident and not returned at the same time?*
- 3. If it has not been located yet, what actions are in place to determine its location and why it was removed and by whom?*
- 4. Why was the suppressor removed and consequently returned to the owner without the firearm?*

I have considered your request in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982. For your information, Eastern District Police concluded an investigation into the matter you refer to in your request, which pertains to the affairs of other people. Therefore the requested information listed in question one to four has been declined pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982, section: 9(2(a) Protect the privacy of other people

If you are not satisfied with my response to your request you have the right to complain to the Office of the Ombudsmen and seek an investigation and review of my decision.

Regards
Deb Collins

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