



NEW ZEALAND
POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

19 November 2018

REF NUMBER: IR-01-18-13137

Jesse Potter
fyi-request-8827-69e1e313@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Jesse

I refer to your Official Information Act request of 08 October 2018 for information relating to police officers measurement of vehicle speeds.

You requested:

1. *The method of how NZ police officers in a patrol car estimate the speed of a moving vehicle while approaching that motor vehicle from the opposite direction.*

An estimated speed is an assessment made by Police staff of a motor vehicle observed to be travelling at a speed well in excess of the prescribed speed limit, whereby the offending driver's speed has not or could not be detected by the use of any speed detection equipment or by any pace checking. In estimating the driver's speed, Police staff should rely on their experience in assessing vehicle speeds. This should include proven experience with operating Police speed detection equipment, and:

- the relative speed of other traffic in relation to the alleged drivers speed, or
- any admission by the driver, or
- the speed of the offending driver relative to a patrol vehicles speed.

2. *The criteria for NZ police officers to issue an infringement based from estimated speed.*

Drivers cannot be issued an Infringement Offence Notice for an estimated excess speed. The offence must be proceeded with by way of a charging document.

You have the right to complain to the Ombudsman and seek an investigation and review of my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely

Superintendent Steve Greally
National Manager Road Policing

Police National Headquarters

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