

6 May 2019

Our Reference: IR-01-19-6607

Hugh Davenport fyi-requests-9691-1d24f9da@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Davenport

I refer to email of 27 February 2019 where you requested, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information regarding location tracking devices, such as GPS. Specifically you requested:

1. I would like to know whether any location tracking devices (such as GPS) are in use for Police personnel. If such devices exist, I would like to know how long the data stored on them is retained for. I would also like to know which personnel they would be in use for (ie, frontline staff only, or all sworn staff, or all employees).

I have considered your request and my response is outlined below.

As at 27 February 2019 New Zealand Police used a device called an Officer Safety Alarm. This device provides a geo-locating capability and the data around tracking is held for any device from the time it is put into service. Officer Safety Alarms (OSAs) were used by dog handlers, station support officers, custody officers and some frontline staff, those frontline staff within a digital radio area (i.e. Auckland/Wellington/Christchurch) did not wear OSAs.

However, in March 2019 NZ Police implemented a new application on Police mobile phones called Deployment and Safety (DaS), which is used by frontline constabulary staff and dog handlers to provide their last known GPS location from their mobile phone. The GPS last known location data is only retained for 24 hours.

Yours sincerely

Acting Superintendent Andrew Sissons

National Manager: Response and Operations