



19 December 2022

Sebastian

By email: [fyi-request-15138-2112bc5b@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-15138-2112bc5b@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Ref: OIA-2020/21-0511

Dear Sebastian

**Official Information Act request: release of *Draft National Risk Report 2018* and additional information from the *2018 Counter-Terrorism Playbook***

I refer to your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 12 April 2021. You requested:

*“...copies of these five documents underlying the Royal Commission report:*

- 1. The 2013 National Assessments Bureau assessment titled "Far Right Rising: A Dangerous Myth"*
- 2. The August 2018 draft National Risk Register; failing that, I request a copy of this document's Terrorism Risk Profile*
- 3. The September 2018 National Assessments Bureau Global Terrorism Update; failing that, I request a copy of this report's "extreme right terrorism" annex*
- 4. The 2018 Counter-Terrorism Strategic Framework*
- 5. The latest Security and Intelligence Board annual strategic assessment prior to 15 March 2019*

*And I request copies of these six documents underlying the Counter-Terrorism Strategy:*

- 1. The Counter-Terrorism System Capability Review*
- 2. The Counter-Terrorism Work Programme*
- 3. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Plan*
- 4. The High-Level Framework for the Prevention of Violent Extremism*
- 5. The Public Information Action Plan*
- 6. The Counter-Terrorism Playbook. If the "Counter-Terrorism Handbook" is a separate document, I request a copy of this as well..."*

Following the Ombudsman's provisional opinion in relation to the investigation of your complaint relating to some information withheld in our response to your request, we have reassessed three of the documents you requested. On 31 August 2022, a revised copy of the 2021 Counter-Terrorism work programme was released to you including the final column titled 'Next Key Milestone'.

Consultations with other agencies and Ministers in relation to the two remaining documents have now been completed.

## **Draft National Risk Report 2018**

Please find attached as Document 1 *Draft National Risk Report 2018*.

The *Draft National Risk Report 2018* is an historical draft document developed in 2018. Its purpose was to provide information on many of the risks on the National Risk Register, and outline some of the ways government was working to mitigate these at the time in 2018. You can find out more about the National Risk Register on the DPMC website at: [dpmc.govt.nz/our-programmes/national-security/national-risk-approach-0](https://dpmc.govt.nz/our-programmes/national-security/national-risk-approach-0).

DPMC coordinated the production of this report, with input from several government agencies and stakeholders in 2018. The draft report was provided to Ministers for consideration, but ultimately the report did not progress beyond draft stage. The document was not formally lodged to Cabinet for approval to release.

Because this document was never finalised or agreed, it should not be assumed that the content provided an accurate representation of the risks included or how they were managed and governed.

In addition, the report is now out-of-date and does not represent the government's assessment of the current risk landscape in 2022, given more recent significant domestic and global events.

Provided with the *Draft National Risk Report 2018* is a cover letter giving some additional context to its status.

There is a diagram on page 106 of the release document (page 99 of the Draft report) that is subject to copyright held by a third party. DPMC does not hold a license for that material to be published. We have redacted this diagram on the basis that the publication of information online through FYI.org.nz would be a breach of copyright.

## **2018 Counter-Terrorism Playbook**

Please find attached as Document 2 a revised copy of the *Counter-Terrorism Playbook 2018* releasing some additional information.

It is important to note that the *Counter-Terrorism Playbook 2018* is several years old and does not reflect the current practice or processes for counter-terrorism in New Zealand. The *Counter-Terrorism Playbook* was superseded by the *Counter-Terrorism Handbook* in late 2019. Scenarios and examples reflected the current events of the day and would not be the examples that would be chosen if prepared today.

Some information is still withheld from the document under section 6(a) of the Act to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of New Zealand. Now released to you are the scenario descriptions and much in the information from the eleven Annexes.

I remind you that you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This revised response will be published on DPMC's website, your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tony Lynch', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tony Lynch  
**Deputy Chief Executive**  
**National Security Group**

Enc: Draft National Risk Report 2018 and Revised copy of 2018 Counter-Terrorism Playbook

Cc: Office of the Ombudsman  
Ombudsman reference: 554119