



24 August 2022

Sebastian
fyi-request-16692-7d98595e@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2021/22-0262

Dear Sebastian

**Official Information Act request relating to Post Operation Deans
National Security System Review**

I refer to your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), received on 10 September 2021. Your request was for:

- “1) *Post Operation Deans National Security System Review*
- 2) *National Security Group Business Plan*”.

I wrote to you on 8 November 2021 withholding the document *Post Operation Deans National Security System Review* in full under the following sections of the Act:

- section 6(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand; and
- section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.

Subsequent to my response, you requested that the Office of the Ombudsman investigate my decision to withhold this document within scope of your request. Following notification of this, an assessment of the material was undertaken and found that there are no longer grounds to withhold the Review.

The Review traversed a number of matters, many of which are now largely in the public domain via the ongoing work to address the recommendations of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the terrorist attack on Christchurch masjidain on 15 March 2019, and through the “Lessons Learned” review of the Whakaari disaster.

Subsequently, I have determined that the review can now be released in full. Please find attached the document *Post Operation Deans National Security System Review*.

This revised response to your request will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet’s website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely

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

cc: Office of the Ombudsman
Ombudsman reference: 571113