

27 March 2023

Amanda Murtagh
fyi-request-21850-7f274704@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Amanda

Request for information

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request sent to the Prime Minister. It was transferred to New Zealand Police on 14 March 2023. You wrote:

Why did the Police ask for information supplied by them (specifically two different 111 call transcripts for the same times and dates P043834871 and P043834754) to be supplied back to them?

Why was a ministerial services workgroup involved in this OIA to Police?

Please provide the terms of reference and scope, minutes and conclusions reached by the ministerial services workgroup relating to these OIA's.

I refer to my OIA dated 16 August 2021. Link as below

<https://fyi.org.nz/request/16419-the-police-information-boomerang#outgoing-28982>

The Ombudsman's guidelines state: "If a requester seeks information by asking a question, there is a distinction between: questions which can be answered by providing information already known to and held by the agency (official information); and questions which require the agency to form an opinion or provide an explanation and so create new information to answer the request (not official information)." As this question asks about a hypothetical situation, it is not considered to be official information.

Your request is not a request for official information and therefore is out of scope of the OIA. However, I hope some context below will assist.

As is shown in the previous response you received in 2021 (linked in your request), there are no reasons for Police to ask you for information that Police provided to you, other than to clarify your request and help you with a response.

Police National Headquarters

180 Molesworth Street. PO Box 3017, Wellington 6140, New Zealand.
Telephone: 04 474 9499. Fax: 04 498 7400. www.police.govt.nz

Ministerial Services is the workgroup that coordinates all OIA responses that are handled by Police National Headquarters. This workgroup receives and acknowledges OIA requests, assigns them to the relevant workgroup for response, coordinates approval of the response by the executive, and releases the response to the requester.

There are no terms of references, scope, minutes, or conclusions that exist in relation to OIA requests. Ministerial Services is a workgroup that deals with OIA requests as stated above.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Gray', written over a light blue grid background.

A/Superintendent Matenga Gray
Director Emergency Communications Centres (Relieving)
