

24 November 2023

John

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Dear John

Request for information

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) requests dated 30 October 2023.

On 30 October 2023, you emailed to request information regarding 'Motivations of the people in He Aranga Ake'. My response to these questions is provided below.

- 1. Can you briefly detail the specific ideological or faith-based component (motivations detailed in Know the Signs) for which the 8 people are being interacted with under the He Aranga Ake framework?**

On 24 August 2023 you requested this information. On 26 October 2023, Police responded (Police reference IR-01-23-27045 refers) to advise that due to the current small numbers of persons within HAA, providing the specific breakdown of ideology could lead to the identification of those involved, and is withheld under the following grounds:

- section 6(c) of the OIA, as the making available of this information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law including the prevention, investigation and detection of offences and the right to a fair trial, and
- section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons, and
- section 9(2)(c) of the OIA, to avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public

Our position has not changed.

- 2. Are they Christian? Are they Muslim? Are they Hindu? Are they Maori identitarians? Are they black identitarians? Are they white identitarians? Are they motivated by anarchism? Are they motivated by communism? Are they motivated by fascism? These categories are purposefully vague so you can 'protect their interests and their right to a fair trial.'**

Police does not hold all the information on the individuals within the framework which falls within the categories you have outlined. Therefore, this part of your request is refused under section 18(g) of the OIA, as the information requested is not held.

The information that does falls in to or aligns with your request is withheld under the following grounds:

- section 6(c) of the OIA, where making available of this information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation and detection of offences and the right to a fair trial, and
- section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons, and

- section 9(2)(c) of the OIA, to avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public

On 30 October 2023, you emailed to request information regarding 'Beyond He Aranga Ake'. My response to these questions is provided below.

3. How many individuals do the Police monitor who fit the motivating factors of the He Aranga Ake framework (detailed in Know the Signs) but do not currently exist within the disengagement framework itself.

Police has interpreted this question to request the number of individuals considered by Police that would fit the indicator factors associated with knowing the signs, as outlined in the 'Kia mataara ki ngā tohu Know the signs' published by the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service. Police is withholding the information requested in full under the following sections:

- section 6(a) of the OIA, as the making available of this information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand
- section 6(c) of the OIA, as the making available of this information is likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law including the prevention, investigation and detection of offences and the right to a fair trial, and
- section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons, and
- section 9(2)(c) of the OIA, to avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public

4. I'm also interested in the motivating factors for your monitoring of the individuals. Are they monitored because of their religious beliefs (Muslims, Christian, Hindu, etc.), because of their ideological beliefs (communism, anarchism, fascism, etc.), or because of their identity (white, black, Maori, etc.)?

Neither, Police investigate individuals because of their behaviour and activity, not what they believe.

Police considers the interests requiring protection by withholding the information outlined in question one and three is not outweighed by any public interest in release of the information.

Please note that as part of its commitment to openness and transparency, Police proactively releases some information and documents that may be of interest to the public. An anonymised version of this response may be publicly released on the New Zealand Police website.

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.

To assist Police with any further information requests we would be happy to meet with you in person to help us to clarify the information you are requesting.

Yours sincerely



Sean Hansen
Director: National Security Group
New Zealand Police