

IR-01-24-13398

15 May 2024

Christopher Tett  
fyi-request-26491-d30314cf@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Tett

***Request for information***

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 20 April 2024, in which you requested information about Police informants and hacking electronic devices to gain information. The answers to your questions are as follows:

*Do police encourage paid informants to hack electronic devices of others to gain information?*

Police does not encourage anyone, including informants to commit criminal offences.

*If this practice is not encouraged, what is the New Zealand police's stance on information supplied by paid informants to them that has been collected via these methods?*

Any information obtained illegally, including by accessing electronic devices, would have to be reviewed on the specific facts on a case-by-case basis. In general terms this type of information would not be accepted and if appropriate, an investigation may be commenced.

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

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request. Information on how to do so is contained on the following site [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz)

Yours sincerely



Steve Anderson  
Detective Inspector  
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