

7 May 2021

Dear

Ref: OIA-2020/21-0529

Official Information Act request for the titles and dates of NAB assessments relating to far-right extremism

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 19 April 2021. You requested:

"...- The titles of the 24 documents determined to be in scope of my OIA requests OIA-2020/21-0411 and OIA-2020/21-0412

- The dates of the 24 documents determined to be in scope of my OIA requests OIA-2020/21-0411 and OIA-2020/21-0412..."

I note your previous requests (DPMC references OIA-2020/21-0411 and OIA-2020/21-0412) were for documents prepared by the National Assessments Bureau (NAB) where the predominant focus is either domestic terrorism, far-right terrorism, white supremacist terrorism, alt-right terrorism, white nationalist extremism and associated terror/criminal threats, for 1 January 2015 – 14 March 2019, and 15 March 2019 – 4 March 2021.

My response to your previous requests stated that assessments prepared by NAB typically focus on the international environment. These independent and impartial assessments are regarding events and developments relevant to New Zealand's national security and international relations. In addition, for clarity, I noted that the Combined Threat Assessment Group within the NZSIS is responsible for assessing the terrorism threats to New Zealand's interests, and that they provide independent assessments to wider government agencies of the threat posed by terrorism.

Given the inherent sensitivity of these assessments, I have decided to withhold their titles and dates under the following sections of the Act:

- Section 6(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand;
- Section 6(b)(i), to protect the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government; and
- Section 6(b)(ii), to protect the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence by any international organisation.

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

This response will be published on DPMC'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