



11 August 2021

[REDACTED]

Reference: OIA-2020/21-0767

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request relating to listed sub-committees

I refer to your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 14 July 2021. You requested:

"...For the following four Security and Intelligence Board sub-committees:

- 1) Terrorist Designation Working Committee*
- 2) Mass Arrival Prevention Strategy Steering Group*
- 3) National Intelligence Open Source Committee*
- 4) Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing Terrorism National Coordination Committee*

I request the following information:

- 1) A copy of their terms of reference*
- 2) The identity and job title of their chairperson, and the agency they are seconded from if they are a secondee*
- 3) The identity of every agency represented in their membership*

If any of these sub-committees have been transferred out of DPMC or dissolved, I'd like my request to be taken to mean the current information as at the date they left DPMC. In this case, I would also like to request the date that these sub-committees left DPMC and what agency is now hosting them (if any)..."

I note the parts of your request relating to the Terrorist Designation Working Committee, Mass Arrival Prevention Strategy Steering Group, and Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing Terrorism National Coordination Committee, were transferred to New Zealand Police, the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment, and Ministry of Justice respectively on 28 July 2021, and that these parts of your request asked for the following:

...1) A copy of their terms of reference

- 2) The identity and job title of their chairperson, and the agency they are seconded from if they are a secondee*
- 3) The identity of every agency represented in their membership*

If any of these sub-committees have been transferred out of DPMC or dissolved, I'd like my request to be taken to mean the current information as at the date they left DPMC. In this case, I would also like to request the date that these sub-committees left DPMC and what agency is now hosting them (if any)..."

With regard to the part of your request remaining with DPMC for response, relating to the National Intelligence Open Source Committee (NIOSC), I have decided to withhold the copy of the NIOSC's terms of reference, including the membership of NIOSC, under section 6(a) of the Act, as "the making available of that information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand". I can advise however that NIOSC was chaired by DPMC and was previously a sub-committee of the National Intelligence Coordination Committee (NICC), also chaired by DPMC.

The NICC agreed on 24 June 2021 that the current approach to dealing with open source intelligence coordination would be best achieved through other forums related to partnerships and operational coordination. Where there might be open source intelligence system issues to discuss, this will now be raised to NICC in the same way other issues relating to National Security and Intelligence Priorities are raised. This essentially elevates and streamlines discussions on open source intelligence issues. As it means, however, that it is no longer necessary for NIOSC to operate as a separate sub-committee of NICC, NIOSC no longer exists.

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**