



5 December 2022

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Ref: OIA-2022/23-0363

Dear [REDACTED]

**Official Information Act request about police vetting and the New Zealand Law Society**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) request of 21 November 2022.

You have requested:

*“This OIA request relates to information known to the Office of Attorney-General but also may well be known to other Agencies, including yours. It applies particularly to the time previous A-G Christopher Finlayson was in Office (2008-2017), but has continued on under the current regime of A-G David Parker.*

*It relates to the June 2013 Police Vetting scandal, in which 100's of innocent people had 'Red Stamp' warnings sent to their employers which, coincidentally, the majority of those employers being Crown Agencies and Departments. Also, please bear mind the \$55 million paid to NZ Media to stop any and all coverage of this Police Vetting scandal.*

*It was therefore not difficult to coerce/threaten CEO's and senior management of these Agencies to 'go along' with the unlawful acts and false information being disseminated by Police Vetting with the sole purpose being to 'distract' and flood the Police Vetting Service with innocuous, false and historic information regarding those vettees (people subject to regular Police vets as a term of their employment).*

*Q1; How much money was paid to the New Zealand Law Society (NZLS) to prevent their members representing the victims of the Police Vetting scandal in any Court or compensation hearings?*

*Q2; Who negotiated these arrangements with NZLS?*

*Q3; When does this unlawful behaviour, initiated by the Crown, end?”*

I can advise that the information you have requested does not exist. On this basis, I am refusing your request in full under section 18(e) as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

As it appears that you have approached other agencies directly, we do not intend to transfer the request under section 14 of the Act.

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

This response may be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet'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



Chris Gianos  
**Acting Executive Director**  
**Strategy, Governance and Engagement Group**