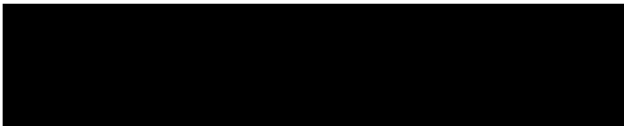


11 May 2018



Dear 

I am writing to you in response to your request dated 3 April 2018. Your request was made pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 and specifically requested:

- In 2017, how many firearms were reported stolen from licenced firearm holders? How many from licenced dealers? Please provide for each police district and what type of firearm.
- In 2017, how many firearms were reported stolen from unlicensed firearm holders and dealers? Please provide for each police district and what type of firearm.
- In 2017, how many firearms were seized by police? Please provide for each police district and what type of firearm.
- In 2017, how many firearms reported stolen were later recovered by police and returned to their owners? Please provide for each police district and what type of firearm.

My responses are as follows:

- In 2017, how many firearms were reported stolen from licenced firearm holders? How many from licenced dealers? Please provide for each police district and what type of firearm.

In 2017, Police have recorded 717 firearms that were stolen from people who had a firearms licence. None of these victims were licensed dealers at the time the firearms were reported stolen; one person had an F endorsement on their standard licence as they were employed by a dealer.

(Note: SMG is sub-machine gun and MSSA is a military style semi-automatic)

| District | Rifle | Shotgun | Airgun | Replica/ Imitation | Slug Gun | MSSA | Pistol | SMG | Total |
|------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Northland | 20 | 9 | 3 | | | | | | 32 |
| Waitemata | 15 | 12 | 3 | 1 | | | | | 31 |
| Auckland City | 4 | 4 | 31 | 1 | | 1 | | | 41 |
| Counties/Manukau | 22 | 29 | 3 | 1 | | | 1 | | 56 |
| Waikato | 18 | 14 | 7 | | | | 1 | | 40 |
| Bay of Plenty | 77 | 28 | 8 | | 4 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 125 |
| Eastern | 28 | 16 | 2 | | | | 1 | | 47 |
| Central | 44 | 32 | 5 | | | | 1 | | 82 |
| Wellington | 38 | 11 | 7 | 1 | | | | | 57 |
| Tasman | 21 | 5 | | | 1 | | | | 27 |
| Canterbury | 77 | 28 | 8 | | 1 | | | | 114 |
| Southern | 40 | 17 | | | | 5 | 3 | | 65 |
| Total | 404 | 205 | 77 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 13 | 1 | 717 |

- In 2017, how many firearms were reported stolen from unlicensed firearm holders and dealers? Please provide for each police district and what type of firearm.

In 2017, Police have recorded 134 firearms that were stolen from people who did not have a firearms licence. Of these, 127 were replicas, imitation firearms, airguns, BB guns, and slug guns, none of which require a firearms licence to possess; the others were 4 rifles and 3 shotguns.

| District | Rifle | Shotgun | Airgun | Replica/ Imitation | Slug Gun | Total |
|------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------------------|-------------|------------|
| Northland | | | 8 | 2 | 1 | 11 |
| Waitemata | | | 9 | 2 | 1 | 12 |
| Auckland City | | | 8 | | | 8 |
| Counties/Manukau | | | 8 | | | 8 |
| Waikato | 1 | 1 | 18 | 20 | 1 | 41 |
| Bay of Plenty | 1 | | 10 | 1 | | 12 |
| Eastern | | | 4 | | 1 | 5 |
| Central | | | 9 | 1 | 1 | 11 |
| Wellington | | | 7 | | | 7 |
| Tasman | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Canterbury | | | 10 | | 1 | 11 |
| Southern | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | 7 |
| Total | 4 | 3 | 93 | 28 | 6 | 134 |

- In 2017, how many firearms were seized by police? Please provide for each police district and what type of firearm.

In 2017, Police seized 1,317 firearms as displayed in the table below. These numbers represent firearms seized from warrantless searches or searches under Sections 6 and 18 of the Search and Surveillance Act 2012.

| District | Rifle | Shotgun | Airgun | Replica/ Imitation | MSSA | Pistol | Total |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Northland | 30 | 13 | 13 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 63 |
| Waitemata | 40 | 31 | 15 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 100 |
| Auckland City | 10 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 27 |
| Counties/Manukau | 33 | 34 | 20 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 99 |
| Waikato | 41 | 25 | 14 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 91 |
| Bay of Plenty | 90 | 47 | 12 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 161 |
| Eastern | 93 | 36 | 19 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 161 |
| Central | 76 | 24 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 129 |
| Wellington | 39 | 30 | 19 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 97 |
| Tasman | 56 | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 76 |
| Canterbury | 79 | 61 | 34 | 4 | 4 | 16 | 198 |
| Southern | 49 | 46 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 106 |
| Other | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 9 |
| Total | 640 | 365 | 185 | 23 | 28 | 76 | 1,317 |

- In 2017, how many firearms reported stolen were later recovered by police and returned to their owners? Please provide for each police district and what type of firearm.

Of the firearms reported stolen in 2017, 21 have been recovered, and four of those have a current status of "Returned to Owner" while others have been seized or surrendered or are being held as

evidence in active court proceedings. In some instances, victims do not provide complete details of their stolen firearms (eg, make/model and serial number) which makes reuniting them with any located firearms difficult for Police.

If you are not satisfied with my response to your request, you have a right under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982 to ask the Office of the Ombudsman to seek an investigation and review of my decision.

For your information, Police is developing a process for proactive release of information, so the response to your request may be publicly released on New Zealand Police website.

Yours sincerely



Mike McLraith
Acting Superintendent
Arms Act Service Delivery Group

CHRIS SCAHILL
Superintendent
NM: Response & Operations
Police National Headquarters