

14 May 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to you in response to your request dated 20 April 2018. Your request was made pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 and specifically requested:

We are wanting to know from the Police Armoury at National headquarters.

- 1. How many man hours a week are allotted to the task of armoury firearms approvals/assessment?*
- 2. How many firearms are waiting to be approved right now?*
- 3. What is the average assessment time of a sporting firearm?*
- 4. Please supply us with a copy of what is assessed and the form instruction sheet that is used to assess it.*
- 5. What is their expected turn around from time of arrival to time of assessment completion?*
- 6. How much of the information on the form can be found on the manufacturer's website or spec sheet on something like a Glock 17. (maybe list what can't be found)*
- 7. How Many firearms are assessed each month approximately?*

For the Arms Act Service Delivery Group

- 1. Once assessed by the Armoury how long does it take for the firearms advisory board to approve or reject?*
- 2. If the above takes longer than 14 days should the submitter be updated with any delays and expected completion time?*

My responses are as follows:

For the Police Armoury:

- 1. How many man hours a week are allotted to the task of armoury firearms approvals/assessment?*

No specific hours are allotted each week for assessments. The assessments are prioritised according to competing demands on the armoury staff within the forensic unit of Police. When demand is high, public good activity in support of investigations and court proceedings will be prioritised over other activity.

Approvals are not within role of the Armoury, approvals are completed by the Arms Act Service Delivery Group.

- 2. How many firearms are waiting to be approved right now?*

The Armoury does not process approvals, only assessments. There are currently two firearms pending assessment.

3. *What is the average assessment time of a sporting firearm?*

The average time for a sporting firearm assessment is 30 minutes, but this may change where follow up enquiries are required relating to the permit or missing parts.

4. *Please supply us with a copy of what is assessed and the form instruction sheet that is used to assess it.*

The sample form used for assessments is attached to this letter.

5. *What is their expected turn around from time of arrival to time of assessment completion?*

No expected time period is set, this is controlled by overall demand and the competing demands of delivering on public good services over the provision of a private service. As this work is fully funded by the tax-payer through Vote Police, support for investigations and court proceedings will be prioritised over other activity.

6. *How much of the information on the form can be found on the manufacturer's website or spec sheet on something like a Glock 17. (maybe list what can't be found)*

Some of the information can be found on the manufacturers' websites, but some of this cannot always be relied on and sometimes additional modifications are made by importer.

7. *How Many firearms are assessed each month approximately?*

This can vary. For your information, the number of assessments of firearms for import permit purposes for the period November 2017 through to 4 May 2018 are as follows:

Month	Number of assessed firearms
November 2017	19
December 2017	5
January 2018	14
February 2018	5
March 2018	9
April 2018	4
May 2018 to date	4

For the Arms Act Service Delivery Group:

1. *Once assessed by the Armoury how long does it take for the firearms advisory board to approve or reject?*

The Classification Committee meets monthly or more frequently if required, depending on the demand for classification of firearms that have been evaluated at the armoury. The firearm is classified on the day the committee meets. In some instances, the classification can be made once the evaluation of the firearm is completed by the Armoury and does not need to be submitted to the Committee. For example, this can occur where a firearm may have previously been evaluated by the Armoury and it is apparent upon re-evaluation in the Armoury that there is no need to change the classification.

2. *If the above takes longer than 14 days should the submitter be updated with any delays and expected completion time?*


The importer is advised as soon as is practical by email or phone once a decision has been made regarding the Classification Committee's determination. In general, it is the same day that the

Committee met. On occasions where further information on the firearm is required for clarification, the importer is contacted and advised. The decision regarding that classification can then be made outside of Committee to expedite the decision-making process rather than await the next meeting.

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

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.

Yours sincerely



Mike McIlraith
Acting Superintendent
Arms Act Service Delivery Group

FIREARMS IMPORTS APPROVALS A B ENDORSEMENTS

DATE	27 Apr 2018	METAL FINISH	Stainless
IMPORT PERMIT / FILE N	F123456	STOCK	Synthetic
IMPORTER	Nothing Importers Ltd Hamilford	WEIGHT (KGS)	7.2
		OVERALL LENGTH (CMS)	122
		BARREL LENGTH (CMS)	711
		SIGHTS (FRONT/REAR/ SCOPE)	luminous bead
TYPE	Shotgun	MSSA FEATURES (IF ANY)	None present
MAKE	Mognum		
MODEL	AF12		
ACTION	Pump	REMARKS (INCL S/NO)	ABC98765
COUNTRY	Masouria		
MAGAZINE TYPE	Tube		
MAGAZINE CAPACITY	5 rounds 3" 6 rounds 2 3/4"		