

Reference: IR-01-22-4813

18 March 2022

Email:

Tēnā koe

Request for information

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 21 February 2022. You asked:

The number of people, who hold a firearms licence, and who have no previous convictions, who are charged with an imprisonable offence which is not a firearms offence or which does not allege any involvement of firearms, who have their firearms licence revoked upon being charged.

I also request, by way of breakdown to the above data:

- (1) The number of people above whose charges would, upon conviction, result in disqualification under s 22H of the the Arms Act 1983; and
- (2) The number of people who went on to be convicted of the offence(s) charged; and
- (3) The number of people who have had their firearms revocation quashed or cancelled and their firearms licence reinstated or reissued as a result of a review:
- (a) With the Police, under s 62 of the Arms Act; or
- (b) On appeal through the District Court, under s 62B of the Arms Act or any equivalent provision.

It is not possible to collate data for this request because someone's conviction status prior to being charged and their licence status is snapshot data at that point in time. When someone is charged for the first time, their conviction status before that charge would need to be reviewed. Looking at the data in the past would mean having to review each charge manually as they may now have convictions. Each revocation would need to be

reviewed in detail to identify whether the person had had convictions prior to being charged and then whether they had appealed.

Your questions are refused under section 18(f) of the OIA as the information would take substantial collation to produce. In arriving at this decision, I have first considered whether fixing a charge and/or extending the time for response would enable the request to be granted.

Police has a process for proactive release of information, so the anonymised response to your request may be publicly released on the New Zealand Police website https://www.police.govt.nz/advice/firearms-and-safety/firearms-information-responses

Yours sincerely

Superintendent Mike McIlraith

Director Partnerships Arms Safety and Control