

Reference: IR-01-22-8693

28 April 2022

Email:

Tēnā koe

Request for information

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 26 March 2022. You asked:

As a part of the Arms Act 1983 S43A, online sales of arms items require a Mail Order form - FRM43A

As a New Zealand citizen, I am requesting the following data for the years of 2020, 2021 and 2022;

1. Number of total FRM43A forms approved

2. Number of FRM43A forms approved for firearms - including those which included other arms items, such as parts and ammunition

3. Number of FRM43A forms approved exclusively for non-prohibited parts - excluding forms which also included firearms.

4. Number of FRM43A forms approved exclusively for ammunition - excluding forms which included other arms items.

When a person submits a mail order form to Police, this may be via email or in person at a police station. While these are entered into the Police computer system, there is no field for whether the form was approved or declined – this is documented manually on the form. There is no way to differentiate if the mail order form was refused or approved, short of reading all the comments added to each form. Additionally, there is no way to tell what was requested in the mail order form (eg, firearms and other things, or ammunition only, or parts only) without reviewing each scanned form manually.

Your questions are therefore 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

Police National Headquarters

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the request to be granted. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision.

You may be interested in firearms-related data that Police publishes quarterly https://www.police.govt.nz/about-us/publication/firearms-data

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

Nocello.

Superintendent Mike McIlraith Director Partnerships Arms Safety and Control