

IR-01-22-10318

18 July 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Request for information

Thank you for your request of 8 April 2022, in which you requested the following:

- *How many police staff from the Bay of Plenty were sent to Wellington during the three week protest this year?*
- o *Can these numbers please be broken down into each policing area?*
- o *Can these numbers please identify the usual role of each staff member or the general area/heirarchy.*
- *Can I please have a separate list showing the number of days each staff member was not in their usual area because of the protest?*
- *How many police, nationally, were deployed to the protest? Can this please be broken down into each police district.*
- *How many days was the region not fully staffed due to this?*
- *How many police staff were brought in from other districts to help in the Bay of Plenty?*
- o *Can these numbers please be broken down into which policing area in the region they went to*
- o *Can this please be broken down into the role the staff members entered*
- o *Can the length of time each staff member was in the region be provided?*
- *Was there a reshuffling in the region to help with staffing numbers? Please provide details of the reshuffle regarding how many staff were moved to X, Y, Z, etc.*
- *What was the cost of sending Bay of Plenty police down to Wellington and can I please have a breakdown of these costs?*

Your request has been considered in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), and I can now provide the following response.

As you may be aware, the Independent Police Conduct Authority (IPCA) has commenced an independent investigation and review (Review) of the policing of the occupation on and around Parliament grounds in Wellington during February and March 2022 (Protest).

Details of the scope of the Review are available on the IPCA's website¹ and you will note this scope includes Police planning and preparation of its response to the Protest. This includes staff selection, training, operational guidance, equipment, and technology provided to officers who policed the Protest.

Whilst this Review is underway, information relating to the issues under investigation and review is expected to be the subject of examination by the IPCA under its powers of investigation under the IPCA Act 1988. With this Review commenced, there is a strong public interest in allowing these matters to be considered in the round by the IPCA.

¹ <https://www.ipca.govt.nz/Site/publications-and-media/2022-media-releases/2022-mar-24-investigation-review-occupation-parliament.aspx>

In the meantime, the responses to your questions are provided below.

How many police staff from the Bay of Plenty were sent to Wellington during the three week protest this year?

Between 9 February and 13 March 2022, 76 Bay of Plenty Police staff were intermittently deployed to Wellington to support the Police response to the Protest.

Can these numbers please be broken down into each policing area?

Please refer to Table 1 below.

Table 1: Breakdown of Bay of Plenty staff police deployed to Protest by Policing area

AREA	NUMBER
Eastern Bay of Plenty	12
Rotorua	27
Taupō	14
Western Bay of Plenty	23
TOTAL	76

Can these numbers please identify the usual role of each staff member or the general area/heirarchy.

Please refer to Table 2 below.

Table 2: Breakdown of Bay of Plenty staff police deployed to Protest by role at time of deployment

ROLE	NUMBER
Intelligence	2
Investigations	8
Prevention (such as Road Policing and Youth Aid)	35
Prosecutions	1
Response (primarily members of Public Safety Teams)	26
Support (Custody officers)	4
TOTAL	76

Can I please have a separate list showing the number of days each staff member was not in their usual area because of the protest?

As noted above, Police staff were intermittently deployed to Wellington to support the Police response to the Protest. Staff were rostered in contingents, with some contingent dates overlapping others. Police staff also ordinarily operate in rosters. This part of your request cannot be met without substantial collation and research and is therefore refused under section 18(f) of the OIA.

How many police, nationally, were deployed to the protest? Can this please be broken down into each police district.

Between 9 February and 13 March 2022, staff were deployed to Wellington from all other Police districts, and were typically deployed for between three to seven days (excluding travel days). For the purpose of this request, each instance of a single officer travelling to Wellington to support the Police response to the Protest will be referred to as a 'deployment.' There were 1802 such deployments of Police staff from outside of Wellington District to support the Police

response to the Protest. Please note this figure includes staff deployed from the Royal New Zealand Police College (RNZPC) and Police National Headquarters (PNHQ).

As some officers travelled to Wellington on more than one occasion, these figures will not match the number of unique individuals who were deployed. For example, Bay of Plenty made 115 deployments to the Protest, with a total of 76 individual staff being deployed.

In addition, there were 392 deployments of staff from Wellington District to the Protest in frontline roles, with an additional 115 deployments in non frontline roles.

The table below outlines the number of deployments made by each district outside of Wellington, including those from PNHQ and the RNZPC.

Table 3: Breakdown of deployments from outside Wellington District to Protest by Police district

DISTRICT	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION
Northland	79
Tamaki Makaurau	417
Waikato	133
Bay of Plenty	115
Eastern	79
Central	201
Tasman	52
Canterbury	219
Southern	171
RNZPC	57
PNHQ	136
Emergency Resource Request	143
TOTAL	1802

* Please note the Emergency Resource Request team included staff who were on training courses, instructors, dog handlers and 50 officers from Central District.

Providing a breakdown of the numbers of individual staff who were deployed to the Protest would require manually reviewing the deployment records of each district, PNHQ and RNZPC over the entire Protest period. In that respect your request is refused under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

How many days was the region not fully staffed due to this?

During the Protest, the Bay of Plenty District was able to maintain normal operational levels for business-as-usual activity.

*How many police staff were brought in from other districts to help in the Bay of Plenty?
Can these numbers please be broken down into which policing area in the region they went to
Can this please be broken down into the role the staff members entered
Can the length of time each staff member was in the region be provided?*

No Police staff were brought into the Bay of Plenty District from other districts to replace staff deployed to the Protest.

Was there a reshuffling in the region to help with staffing numbers? Please provide details of the reshuffle regarding how many staff were moved to X, Y, Z, etc.

There was no major reshuffling outside of normal business-as-usual activity to meet demand.

What was the cost of sending Bay of Plenty police down to Wellington and can I please have a breakdown of these costs?

As at 31 March 2022, Police had incurred actual costs totalling \$2.557m in relation to the protest at Parliament. The expenditure cover expenses incurred directly in response to the protest such as accommodation, food supplies, towing, airfares and vehicles, venues and helicopter hire costs. It does not include any personnel costs of the staff assigned to this operation.


The specific breakdown of this information by Police District cannot be met without substantial collation and research and is therefore refused under section 18(f) of the OIA.

The IPCA anticipates the Review will be completed and reported on by 31 March 2023. Police recognise the importance of transparency in these matters and look forward to the release of the IPCA's report, at which time more detailed information regarding the Police response to the Protest is likely to be publicly available.

Please note that as part of its commitment to openness and transparency, Police proactively release some information and documents that may be of interest to the public. An anonymised version of this response may be publicly released on the New Zealand Police website.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



David Greig
Superintendent
New Zealand Police