

19 September 2014

Cherie Howie  
 Reporter – New Zealand Herald  
[cherie.howie@healdonsunday.co.nz](mailto:cherie.howie@healdonsunday.co.nz)

Dear Cherie

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email of 28 August 2014 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 about bus and taxi drivers who were issued with drink or drug driving charges while operating their service. You have also asked if this data could include details, such as alcohol/blood reading, age and gender.

I understand that you received an email from Andrew Knackstedt, National Media Manager on 29 August 2014, clarifying your request. It was agreed that you would like information on the total number of current passenger endorsement holders and number of those with at least one alcohol/drug driving offence in the preceding 12 months for the years, 30 June 2012, 30 June 2013, and 30 June 2014.

Please see the below table that details this information for you.

Date range	Large passenger endorsement		Small passenger endorsement	
	Total large passenger endorsement holders	Number with alcohol/drug offence in preceding 12 months	Total small passenger endorsement holders	Number with alcohol/drug offence in preceding 12 months
30 June 2012	11740	10	21361	14
30 June 2013	11589	11	22281	17
30 June 2014	11558	7	23065	17

Please note that data is limited to current passenger endorsement as at 30 June of the respective year. Offences are a count of the number of endorsement holders with at least one alcohol/drug driving offence in the preceding 12 months (1 July – 30 June).

As the number of passenger endorsement holders with alcohol/drug offences is low the decision has been made to decline your request for further detail. This is to protect the identity of the individuals concerned, in accordance with section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 192, which allows for information to be withheld to protect the privacy of natural persons.

With respect to the decision to withhold information, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

Under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, you have the right to apply to an Ombudsman for an investigation and review of the decision to withhold information from part of your request. The address is:

Office of the Ombudsmen  
PO Box 10152  
Wellington

Please be advised that this response will be published on the NZ Transport Agency's website within 48 hours of you receiving it. If this does not match a publishing deadline, please inform Andrew Knackstedt, National Media Manager.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the Transport Agency, please contact Andrew Knackstedt, National Media Manager, by email to [andrew.knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:andrew.knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz) or by phone on 04 894 6285.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Charlton', enclosed in a light blue rectangular box.

**Michelle Charlton**  
Manager, Customer Information  
For Chief Executive