

13 December 2018

Phil Pennington
Radio New Zealand News
Phil.Pennington@radionz.co.nz

REF: OIA-4311

Dear Phil

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 24 October 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *Any current or completed or draft report or advisory or memo about a TA investigation of vehicle accidents in the South Island or lower South Island in 2018 or last 3 years*
- *Any current or completed or draft report or advisory or memo about a TA investigation into lower South Island vehicle inspection groups in the last 12 months*
- *Any report about TA looking at vehicle inspections, including brake testing, at VTNZ Gore and VTNZ Alexandra*

You emailed us on 25 October 2018 to exclude the following part of your request:

- *Any current or completed or draft report or advisory or memo about a TA investigation of vehicle accidents in the South Island or lower South Island in 2018 or last 3 years*

You emailed us again on 25 October 2018 to include the following in your request:

- *Any record of any investigations into Inspection Organisations or inspector(s) directly related to a heavy vehicle accident in the South Island in the last 12 months*

We have interpreted the scope of your request to be for files south of the Waitaki River. The following files fall within the scope of your request and are enclosed:

- Attachment 1: Investigations into lower South Island vehicle inspection groups in the last 12 months
- Attachment 2: Investigations into vehicle inspections, including brake testing, at VTNZ Gore and VTNZ Alexandra

Your request for '*record of any investigations into Inspection Organisations or inspector(s) directly related to a heavy vehicle accident in the South Island in the last 12 months*' is refused under section 6 (c) of the Act as making this information available is likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial.

Certain information has been withheld in attachments 1 & 2 under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. This section allows for the withholding of information to protect the privacy of natural persons.

With respect to the information that has been withheld, 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 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold this information. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the NZ Transport Agency, please contact Andy Knackstedt, Senior Media Manager by email to andrew.knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on 04 894 6285.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brent Downes', enclosed within a blue oval shape.

Brent Downes
Manager Provider Compliance (Southern)