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14 October 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-11085

Dear [REDACTED]

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 26 September 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I'm doing a short research project with Massey focusing on CCTV in taxis in Wellington. So far I have only managed to find the following information relating to Combined Taxis and there is little detail.

"Travel in one of our late model vehicles that are all equipped with GPS systems, security cameras and braille stickers. Feel comfortable knowing you are in the safest hands"

Do you hold any information on any/all taxis in the Wellington region that have CCTV that I could view?

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency does not hold information about drivers, vehicles or operators with In Vehicle Security Cameras (IVSCs) as, while each driver abides by section 3.8(2) of the *Land Transport Rule – Operator Licensing 2017* (Operator Licensing Rule), they are not required to notify Waka Kotahi which method is chosen. I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as the information requested is not held by Waka Kotahi and there is no reason to believe it is held by another government agency or department.

I can, however, advise that sections 3.8 to 3.10 of the Operator Licensing Rule outlines when an IVSC is required. Small passenger services operating in certain, but not all, parts of Wellington may be required to have an IVSC in their vehicle. Details about the Operator Licensing Rule can be accessed at <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/rules/land-transport-rule-operator-licensing-2017/operator-licensing-2017/>

Section 3.9(2) and Schedule 2 of the Operator Licensing Rule stipulates that a driver of a small passenger service must not accept a hire in the below areas of Wellington unless it has an IVSC approved by Waka Kotahi:

Hutt City, Upper Hutt City, Porirua City, and Wellington City

However, if the hire commences outside of these areas but will end within one of the above sites, then an IVSC may not be required. This therefore makes it difficult to determine which specific vehicles do or do not have an IVSC fitted.

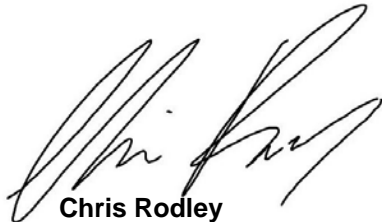
If you were to contact taxi companies regarding your request, it is unlikely that you would be able to access any recorded information as the Operator Licensing Rule (as per section 3.12 of the same rule) determines who can access the material recorded and stored in an IVSC and for what purpose. Access is generally available to NZ Police for law enforcement purposes, or an authorised person for repair, testing or assessing the IVSC's operation. Footage is also not retained beyond 168 hours.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse this request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

In line with Waka Kotahi policy, this response will soon be published on our website, with personal information removed.

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi, please contact Les Davis, Senior Advisor, Standards and Guidelines (Commercial), by email to driverandoperator@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Rodley', with a stylized, cursive script.

Chris Rodley

Senior Manager, Regulatory Standards and Implementation