

29 September 2023

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-13618

Dear [REDACTED]

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

Thank you for your email of 13 September 2023 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*I would like the details and names of the driver licence assessors, and information on the frequency at which they fail drivers.*

I am withholding information regarding individual testing officers' (TO) pass and fail rates under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased 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.

While there is public interest in ensuring that the TOs contracted to complete practical driver licence tests are doing so fairly and equitably throughout New Zealand, this does not outweigh the privacy interest of the TOs. Here, a TO has a reasonable expectation that information relating to tasks carried out in the course of their role would remain confidential.

This is especially so with respect to pass and fail rates of practical driver licence tests due to the extensive number of variables involved. This could include, but is not limited to, the experience of the drivers sitting the test, the number of restricted versus full licence tests taken by the TO (as more full licence tests can be completed in a day) or the number of requalification tests undertaken. A requalification test is where an experienced driver who has already held a driver licence in the past, is required to sit another test after a stand down from driving for a period of 12 months.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

However, you can access the pass and fail rates per region on our Open Data Portal here: [opendata-nzta.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/driver-licence-pass-rates-dataset-api/explore](https://opendata-nzta.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/driver-licence-pass-rates-dataset-api/explore).

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 the Ministerial Services team, by email to [official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eric van der Plank', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Eric van der Plank**  
Senior Manager Commercial Services