



AF07/c220108/3

24 March 2011

Mr Thomas Beagle
PO Box 5641
Lambton Quay
WELLINGTON 6145

Dear Mr Beagle

I refer to your Official Information Act inquiry dated 24 February 2011, in which you seek further information about the Automatic Number Plate recognition (ANPR) pilot police are currently conducting. Your questions are addressed individually below.

1. *What is the cost of purchasing each vehicle used for ANPR?*

This information is withheld pursuant to section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Official Information Act 1982 as it is commercially sensitive.

2. *Do the police have any intention of having non-mobile ANPR detection systems?*

The pilot is currently based around mobile (in vehicle) equipment. A decision on further deployment options will be made once the evaluation has been completed.

3. *How many of these systems do the police intend to buy (broken down into types)?*

A decision on future purchases will not be made until the pilot has been completed and a full evaluation provided. The purpose of the pilot is to explore staff resource implications stemming from ANPR deployments, a matter that will guide these decisions.

4. *How long will the data for each captured licence plate be kept for?*

Data of vehicle movements captured during ANPR deployments will be retained on a secure Police database. In time this information will be deleted when it is no longer required for the purpose it was obtained. Police may search the stored data if there is a belief that there may be information relating to a crime; e.g. where a serious crime has taken place and Police are looking for an offender's vehicle.

5. *What data is stored with each record (eg, location, time of day etc)?*

The time, date and a photograph of all vehicles passing the ANPR camera is stored.

Safer Communities Together

POLICE NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

180 Molesworth Street, PO Box 3017, DX SX11149, Wellington 6140, New Zealand

Telephone: (04) 474 9499 Facsimile: (04) 498 7400 www.police.govt.nz

6. *Is there any intention to use captured licence plate data to track people?*

ANPR alerts Police to vehicles which have previously been entered into the Vehicle of Interest database. Where this database indicates a vehicle of interest, Police will stop that vehicle. ANPR duplicates existing operational practice when sought after vehicles are observed by police staff during their routine patrols.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rose".

Superintendent Paula Rose
National Manager: Road Policing
New Zealand Police National Headquarters