



## Office of Hon Judith Collins

**MP for Papakura**

Minister of Police

(includes responsibility for Serious Fraud Office)

Minister of Corrections

Minister of Veterans' Affairs

11/P/1010

27 SEP 2011

Mr Thomas Beagle  
NZ Council for Civil Liberties  
PO Box 5641  
WELLINGTON 6145

Dear Mr Beagle

Thank you for your letter dated 30 August 2011 in which you ask four questions:

1. Do I believe that people should be able to take photos and videos of the police at work?
2. Is it against the law in New Zealand to take photos or videos of the police at any time?
3. Am I aware of plans to introduce laws that might change this?
4. Have I discussed this issue with anyone and, if so, what was the outcome of those discussions?

As you know, I sought advice from my officials on aspects of your letter. I am advised that New Zealand Police recently replied to similar correspondence you sent to the Commissioner. The police reply stated that taking photos or videos of police at work is not against the law if the photos or video are taken in a public place, or with the landowner's consent if on private property.

I do not see any need to change the law at present, I am not aware of any plans to do so and I have not discussed the issue with anyone.

Yours sincerely

Hon Judith Collins  
**Minister of Police**