

3 March 2023

Section (9)(2)(a)

Section (9)(2)(a)

Our ref: OIA 102339

Tēnā koe Section (9)(2)(a)

Official Information Act request: Convictions following charges

Thank you for your email of 2 February 2023 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) subsequent convictions relating to Police charges for possessing prescription stimulants.

Specifically, you requested:

“... information regarding the number of convictions that have followed charges for the possession of prescription stimulant medication. As indicated by the NZ Police (OIA response attached), 22 charges have been laid for the possession of prescription stimulants between the dates 1 Jan 2018 to 30 Nov 2022. I would like to know of these charges, how many led to subsequent conviction.”

Please note that the Ministry of Justice and New Zealand Police use different offence codes for reporting on charges. As such, we are refusing your request under section 18(f) of the Act as it would require substantial collation and research for the Ministry to identify the same “22 charges... laid for the possession of prescription stimulants between the dates 1 Jan 2018 to 30 Nov 2022” that Police identified, and (of these charges) to provide you with the number that led to subsequent conviction.

The Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) produces a range of information and statistics across a wide variety of activity within the justice sector.

You may find the data we have on the number of people charged and convicted, broken down by offence type, charge outcome, sentence type and demographics helpful. There is a data table called ‘Drug offences’, which provides the number of convictions for ‘stimulants and depressants’ for the last 10 financial years. This is available at: justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/research-data/justice-statistics/data-tables/#offence

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Richard Williams
Acting Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery