

22 November 2021

s9(2)(a)



Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request received 28 October 2021, about the use of surveillance cameras by Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities. I respond to your questions in the order asked below.

1. *The location details (address, or latitude and longitude) of all cameras your organisation has which are on, or surveil outdoor public spaces. Could this please be supplied in a spreadsheet.*
  - a. In Kāinga Ora corporate offices CCTV is deployed for the purposes of identifying threats to staff, as a deterrence to criminal activity, and retrieving evidence to support criminal investigations carried out by the Police. Consideration is given to placement and coverage of cameras to avoid unnecessary coverage of public spaces.
  - b. In Kāinga Ora owned or managed residential complexes Kāinga Ora deploys CCTV for the purpose of community safety. In these environments CCTV is deployed to deter criminal activity, and to further support those communities by providing the Police with evidence in support of their lawful investigations. As with Kāinga Ora facilities, consideration is given to the placement and coverage of CCTV to avoid unnecessary coverage of public spaces.
  - c. Kāinga Ora declines to provide the addresses of our housing complexes under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, on privacy grounds. Kāinga Ora does not operate CCTV at individual (non-complex type) housing locations.
2. *The purpose of the cameras - e.g. traffic flow/security/weather conditions*
  - a. The cameras operate for the purposes of identifying threats to staff, deterring individuals intending to commit criminal offences and collecting evidence to support criminal investigations carried out by the Police. Consideration is given to placement and direction of cameras to avoid unnecessary surveillance of public spaces.
3. *How long is footage is stored for?*
  - a. This varies from site to site due to the age, configuration and components of a CCTV system, but the average length of storage is approximately 30 Days.
4. *Are the cameras capturing audio?*
  - a. No cameras installed in Kāinga Ora locations are capable of recording audio.
5. *If so, roughly how many*
  - a. N/A

6. *Are any cameras capable of facial recognition?*
  - a. No
7. *If so, roughly how many, is this capability being used and what is it being used for*
  - a. N/A.
8. *Are any cameras capable of license plate recognition?*
  - a. No.
9. *If so, roughly how many, is this capability being used and what is it being used for.*
  - a. N/A.
10. *Who are they monitored by? If they are monitored by an organisation other than yourselves, please name the organisation and supply details of the arrangement you have with them.*
  - a. No live monitoring occurs. Footage is reviewed when necessary.
11. *Do any other organisations have access to the cameras?*
  - a. Aotea Security Ltd, Optic Security Group Ltd. No other organisation or agency has access to Kāinga Ora CCTV systems.
12. *If so, please name the organisation, the reason they have access and what functionality the access gives them e.g. move cameras*
  - a. Aotea Security Ltd is Kāinga Ora's preferred technical security supplier. Aotea Security has access to our CCTV systems when they are onsite undertaking installation or maintenance work. Aotea security does not hold or retain CCTV footage, however there may be occasions when an Aotea security technician will view CCTV footage but this is under supervision and is controlled.
  - b. Optic Security Group Ltd provides these same services but is limited to a single site – Kāinga Ora Corporate Headquarters, Wellington.
13. *Have other organisations requested footage in 2020 & 2021?*
  - a. The only organisation that has requested footage is Police in relation to criminal investigations.
14. *If so, please name the organisations and the reasons footage was requested*
  - a. Police – to support criminal investigations.
15. *Have you supplied footage to any organisations?*
  - a. Police – to support criminal investigations.
16. *If so, please name the organisations and the reasons the footage was supplied, and how many times it was supplied in 2020 & 2021*

- a. Police – to support criminal investigations. Kāinga Ora is unable to confirm the number of times footage has been supplied as this information is not recorded. I am therefore declining this aspect of your request under section 18(g) of the OIA as the information is not held.

17. *Are there cameras in public spaces your organisation owns/manages which are owned by organisations such as local business associations?*

- a. No.

18. *If so, please list the organisations, and indicate what arrangements you have for who has access to the cameras/footage and how it is used.*

- a. N/A.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision on your OIA request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that Kāinga Ora proactively releases our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request may be published, with your personal information removed, at: <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/publications/official-information-requests/>

Yours sincerely



Rachel Kelly  
**Manager Government Relations**