

30 May 2013

Mr David Fisher
Journalist
NZ Herald

david.fisher@nzherald.co.nz

Dear Mr Fisher

I am replying to your request to the Commissioner of Police of 3 May 2013 requesting the following information under the terms of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *copies of all information provided to you, by you or otherwise created in your office regarding the death of Bruce Hutton and the Police involvement in the funeral;*
- *copies of all information provided to the Police Executive group, created by the group or otherwise held by the group regarding the death of Bruce Hutton and the Police involvement in the funeral;*
- *it is intended this would include the notification of Mr Hutton's likely and actual death, any invitation to the funeral, any speech or other notes prepared for the funeral. It is also intended this would include any discussion after the funeral, including reports (emails, memos or verbal) by Deputy Commissioner Mike Bush as to his attendance and media issues arising from the attendance.*

As requested, please find attached a copy of the email correspondence to the Police Executive advising of Mr Hutton's death and suggesting a NZ Police presence at the funeral. Some names have been withheld pursuant to Section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982. This section of the Act applies in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

In addition to this email correspondence, the Commissioner's office was rung by a retired police officer, representing the bereaved family of Mr Hutton, specifically requesting a formal Police presence at the funeral on behalf of the family.

Phone calls took place with the family liaison contact to confirm DC Bush would represent NZ Police at the funeral, in response to the family's request.

Also attached is a copy of the speech notes prepared for DC Bush by a Police staff member and the accompanying email. These speech notes were derived from Mr Hutton's personnel file, which was retrieved from the Police archives. This is common practice when developing eulogy speeches for retired police officers.

As NZ Police have previously noted, the audience for the eulogy was the family and friends of Mr Hutton. The speech should be viewed in that context, which was that

DC Bush was reading from a former officer's service record at his funeral in front of grieving family members.

There were no reports or memos prepared after the event by DC Bush on the funeral or associated issues, therefore your request for this particular information is declined under Section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982, as it does not exist.

NZ Police media statements were prepared in response to media queries from yourself and other media following the funeral and subsequent coverage of the event, and copies of these have already been made available to you.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 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 black ink, appearing to read 'Jones', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Karen Jones
General Manager: Public Affairs

From: BOREHAM, Allan
Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2013 23:32
To: BUSH, Michael (Mike)
Subject: Fwd: Bruce Hutton - Funeral Details

Mike,

FYI. Are you aware of who from Wellington, if anyone intends to attend?

AB

Assistant Commissioner Allan Boreham
Upper North

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED] >
Date: 2 April 2013 11:59:51 AM NZDT
To: "BOREHAM, Allan" <Allan.Boreham@police.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Bruce Hutton - Funeral Details

Hello Allan

Out of courtesy I thought I should advise you the funeral details for Bruce Hutton who served in Auckland, Otahuhu and Takapuna. Hopefully there is a Police presence at his funeral despite the fact that he was long retired. Bruce was a life member of the Auckland Ex Police Officer's Club.

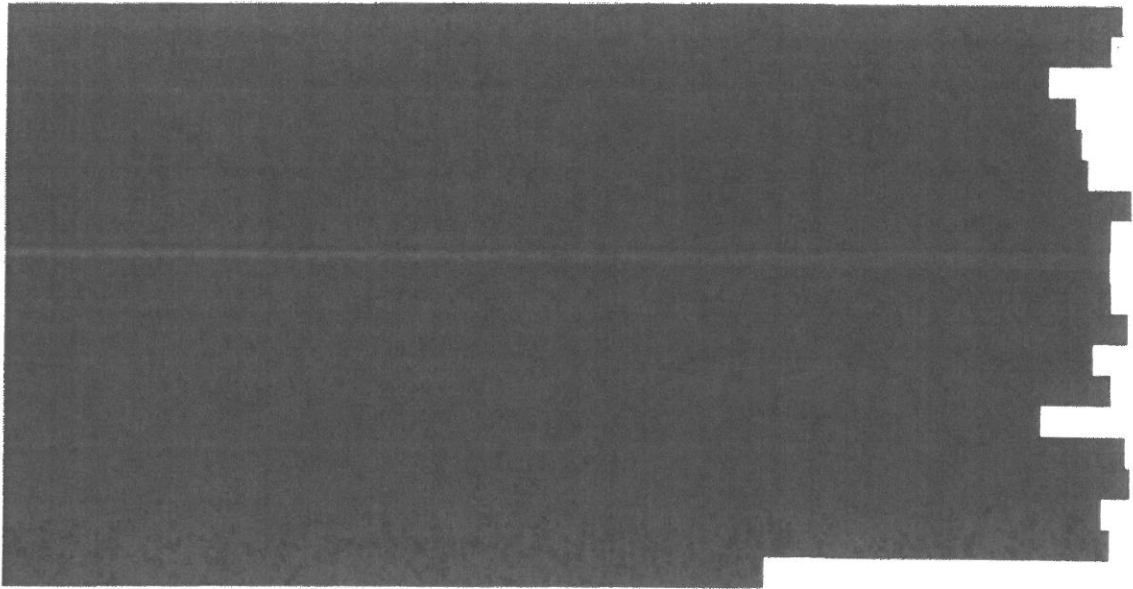
Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2013 10:07
To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Cc: MARSHALL, Peter
Subject: Bruce Hutton - Funeral Details

Hello

 who is supporting Bruce's wife  has advised me of the following funeral details:

Friday 5 April at 2 pm
Newmarket Room Ellerslie Function Centre, Auckland Racing Club
Ground Floor Ellerslie Stand
Ellerslie Race Course

Ample parking available

There will be the opportunity for a drink (cash bar operating) at the venue as well as tea/coffee etc.

Regards





Subject: FW: Hutton funeral notes
Attachments: 050413 Hutton - MB.doc

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 4 April 2013 14:50
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Hutton funeral notes

Hi [REDACTED]

Notes attached for Mike Bush for funeral tomorrow.

Regards

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Police National Headquarters, 180 Molesworth Street, PO Box 3017, Wellington
www.police.govt.nz

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Notes for Deputy Commissioner Mike Bush

Funeral of Bruce Hutton

2pm, Friday 5 April 2013

Ellerslie Event Centre, Ellerslie Race Course, Newmarket Room

80 Ascot Ave, Remuera, Auckland

I'll start by apologising on behalf of the Police Commissioner for his absence today. As you may have seen reported on the news, Commissioner Marshall is in Afghanistan. If he'd been in the country he would have wanted to be here to pay his respects to Bruce and his family.

On that point, I'd like to acknowledge Bruce's family - his widow Ivy; daughters Gail, Christine and Erin, and their families - and thank them for the invitation to speak today on behalf of New Zealand Police.

The Police family does not forget its members, even many years after retirement, and it's always an honour to be asked to pay tribute to someone who had as long and distinguished a career as Bruce's.

Bruce first joined Police in 1948, but resigned after little more than a year. In 1956 he decided to give us another go and he was attested as a temporary constable in July that year.

Apart from his stint at Police Training School at Trentham as a member of the No 4 Recruit Wing, Bruce spent his entire career at stations in and around Auckland.

He joined CIB in 1958 and performed the range of duties - from investigating car break-ins to assisting murder inquiries - before being seconded to Prosecutions. On promotion to Senior Sergeant in 1965 he reverted to the Uniform Branch, continuing in Prosecutions, then general duties. Promotion to Inspector followed in March 1968.

Before the end of the year he was back in CIB as Detective Inspector Hutton, at which rank he was transferred to Otahuhu as O/C Southern Division CIB in 1970. He remained at Otahuhu until 1973, when he became second in command of Auckland District CIB.

In December 1974 his promotion to Chief Inspector was approved and he was back in uniform as aide to the Auckland Central Area Controller, and as relieving Superintendent. He tendered his resignation in May 1976.

During Bruce's progression through the ranks senior officers noted him to be "courteous, efficient and of excellent character and conduct"; "conscientious, diligent and trustworthy"; a hard worker who "inspires confidence and acquires respect" among colleagues and members of the public.

In recommending him for promotion to Inspector in 1967, Chief Inspector W R Fleming declared unequivocally: "His integrity is beyond reproach".

As a young officer I knew Bruce as the sponsor of the Hutton Shield which, for those not in the know, was the prize in an annual race competition for the Auckland police districts, held on the North Shore. Bruce and Ivy used to come to present the prizes, underlining Bruce's desire to support Police, even after he left us.

I also heard a great deal about Bruce from my mentors in Police who had worked under him - the likes of Norm Sowter, John Hughes, Brian Cameron and Graham Perry. These were highly respected officers who always spoke very highly of him.

As we all know, despite the breadth and depth of Bruce's Police career, in the public eye he is associated with one case above all. It is a great tragedy and irony that a man of such character should have been subject to devastating accusations of dishonesty.

If there is one area in which those who knew him might have thought he was being less than honest, it would be when he sought to play down the hurt of those accusations.

In conclusion, to Bruce's family, I trust that at this sad time you feel the support of the wider Police family.

Whatever may be said outside today and in the future, here we remember and celebrate the life of a dedicated and talented officer who made a significant contribution to many inquiries; a man who gave 20 years of service to Police and to his country.

Thank you.