



16 December 2024

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 18 November 2024 to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

This is a request for official information under the Official Information Act 1982 in relation to X rated content. We request the following information:

- The total times adult entertainment websites have been blocked by your agency's web filter, on staff devices or any work environment. -If you require a list to search this, please use your own discretion.*

- A breakdown of these figures by month.*

As you are aware, on 20 November 2024, the Ministry contacted you to seek clarification for the date range of the requested information. You confirmed you would like “a breakdown by year over the last three years.”

The information has been provided to you in the table below. Please note that the Ministry only holds data logs for 12 months, and in these circumstances, is only able to retrieve data specifically regarding blocks on ‘adult entertainment websites’ for the previous six months. As such, the remaining part of your request for earlier data has been refused under section 18(e) as the information no longer exists and/or cannot be found despite reasonable efforts.

Please note that the data does not necessarily reflect genuine attempts to access adult websites, as website blocks can also be triggered by advertisement redirects embedded on legitimate websites.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at:

www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment publishes responses to requests for official information on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

Electronically approved by Mike Porter

Mike Porter

General Manager – Information Technology
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Table: Number of 'adult' website blocks triggered

Month	Number of blocks
June	11
July	11
August	17
September	22
October	8
November	76
December	94
<i>Total</i>	<i>239</i>