

30 January 2025

Dear

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 11 December 2024. You requested the following:

...Could you please advise regarding how many fraud reports are received annually, as well as how many are investigated including why they are not investigated?

Information being released

Inland Revenue's website provides customers with an anonymous tip-off form (IR873), which can be found at: <u>www.ird.govt.nz/managing-my-tax/tax-crime/tell-us-about-evasion-or-fraud/report-anonymously-ir873</u>.

This allows for individuals to tell Inland Revenue when someone might not be meeting their tax obligations or paying the correct amount of tax. When received, the reports are matched with other information held by Inland Revenue and assessed to determine if any further information or investigation is required.

Data for anonymous reporting for the 2023/24 financial year is only available from August 2023 onwards. For the 2023/24 financial year, Inland Revenue has classified 76 reports as 'fraud', with 36 deemed suitable for further review. For the 2024/25 financial year, as at 30 January 2025, Inland Revenue has classified 108 reports as 'fraud', with 78 deemed suitable for further review.

Additionally, Inland Revenue has relationships with other government agencies and the banking sector. If other agencies or banks notice suspicious activity that appears to be fraudulent, they have an established process to inform Inland Revenue. These referrals are ad hoc and are responded to and investigated if appropriate.

Data for phishing reports is only available from August 2024 onwards. Since August 2024, Inland Revenue have received 4000 phishing or reports of scams from customers. These are all triaged for any malicious URLs detected. From these emails, 600 contained malicious URLs that linked to 68 phishing campaigns. These were taken down as a result.

Where customers have reported scams or fraud and they are concerned someone has gained access to their account, these are referred to a team for further review.

Publishing of OIA response

We intend to publish our response to your request on Inland Revenue's website (<u>ird.govt.nz</u>) as this information may be of interest to other members of the public. This letter, with your personal details removed, may be published in its entirety. Publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the OIA's purpose of enabling more effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies and promoting the accountability of officials.

Thank you again for your request.

Yours sincerely



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