

More information

If you need any clarification about these issues, or would like further information, you can talk to one of the contact persons below, or any other trusted member of your community. You can also provide feedback or complain to the intelligence agencies themselves or to the Inspector General of Intelligence and Security.

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Contacts

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SIS 224 (0800 747 224)

Government Communications and Security
Bureau (04) 472 6881

Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security:
(04) 817 0402



Your Rights when dealing with the NZSIS

The New Zealand Security Intelligence Service and the Government Communications and Security Bureau are our intelligence agencies whose job is national security – to protect New Zealand and keep New Zealanders safe.

These intelligence agencies respond to threats to public safety, including potential threats from individuals and groups who hold strong religious or political views. They may want to talk to you, your friends or family.



Your Rights

- **You are free to decide whether or not to speak to the NZSIS.**

There is no penalty for not speaking with the NZSIS and if you do decide to speak to the NZSIS, you can decide to stop at any time. You are not under arrest or being detained –the NZSIS cannot arrest, detain or charge you.

If you have security concerns about members of your community, you may want to discuss these issues with a trusted family member or a member of the community before talking to the intelligence agencies or the Police.

It is not illegal to hold strong political or religious views. However, it is a crime to prepare or plan to carry out acts of violence against people or property. It is also a crime to have or to spread information that promotes political or religious violence.

The intelligence agencies have no power to enforce the law. They are able to interview you, if you wish, but they have no powers to arrest, detain or charge you. If they want to do so, they have to involve the police, who will make their own decision about what they do.

If you are approached by an intelligence officer, you may wish to co-operate and provide any information you wish about threats to public safety. However, the information you provide may be used in legal proceedings against you or others. You should also be aware of your rights when talking to intelligence officers:

1. Intelligence officers have to say why they are interviewing you and provide you with any information that they are holding about you.
2. Intelligence officers have to make it clear they do not have the power to arrest, detain, charge or prosecute you, and that any interview is simply an opportunity for you to provide information to help their investigation or work.
3. If you do not want to talk to an intelligence officer, you have a right to “remain silent” - to say nothing and ask not to be contacted further about this.
4. You have a right to representation. You can have a lawyer, parent or community leader present with you when you talk to an intelligence officer. If you do want representation, tell the intelligence officer this and make arrangements for that representative or support person to be present.

5. You have a right to understand and be understood when you interact with intelligence officers. If you need a translator, you can ask for one.
6. You have a right not to feel threatened. You are entitled to ask questions and to be clear about what is happening.
7. If a person advises you they work for the New Zealand Security and Intelligence Service they have to provide you with a way to confirm this.
8. You have the right to request a record of the interview, and to fix any errors in it.
9. Intelligence officers have no power to issue warnings to you or anyone else.