



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

Your Ref:
Our Ref: 21/1653
Enquiries:
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Mr Lee Odenwalder
Member for Elizabeth
44 John Rice Avenue
ELIZABETH VALE SA 5112

Email: elizabeth@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Mr Odenwalder

Re: Freedom of Information Act application

In reference to your application made pursuant to the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 1991, access was sought to:

“Statistical data relating to Operation Nomad persons of interest for each of the fire seasons from 2016/17 to 2020/21, including – total number of persons of interest – total number of persons of interest identified as high risk – total number of persons of interest identified as significant risk, and – total number of persons of interest identified as a possible risk – total number of home visits conducted by police on Operation Nomad persons of interest during each of these fire seasons. Time frame 01/09/2016 – 23/02/2021.”

In relation to the following part of your request:

“Statistical data relating to Operation Nomad persons of interest for each of the fire seasons from 2016/17 to 2020/21, including – total number of persons of interest – total number of persons of interest identified as high risk – total number of persons of interest identified as significant risk, and – total number of persons of interest identified as a possible risk – ... Time frame 01/09/2016 – 23/02/2021.”

It is determined to **release in full** data that falls within the scope of this part of your request. Data has been presented in the table below and was correct as at 1 March 2021.

When interpreting the data the following information must be taken into account:

- The definition of an Operation NOMAD person of interest (POI) is a person who is considered a risk of lighting fires or is a recidivist fire lighter.
- The total numbers of POI's are as at the end of each Fire Danger Season (FDS).
- During the 2014/2015 FDS the Risk Rating of 'Possible Risk' was removed and 'Non-Standard' was introduced.



- The decrease in total numbers post 2016/2017 FDS was the result of a review conducted to ensure focus remained on persons that pose a risk during the FDS for lighting bushfires.

RISK RATING	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
HIGH	32	44	44	32	35
SIGNIFICANT	54	51	39	28	44
NON STANDARD	168	4	12	9	16
TOTAL	254	99	95	69	95

In relation to the following part of your request:


“Statistical data relating to Operation Nomad persons of interest for each of the fire seasons from 2016/17 to 2020/21, including ... total number of home visits conducted by police on Operation Nomad persons of interest during each of these fire seasons. Time frame 01/09/2016 – 23/02/2021.”

The total number of home visits conducted by South Australia Police is not readily available as the data is not collated or maintained for the purposes of reporting. To discover this information a manual examination of over 600 individual management plans for each POI would need to be undertaken. This would involve taking Police Officers ‘off line’ for several days to collate the information and the associated costs would exceed the \$1,000 free threshold afforded to Members of Parliament.

This determination was made on 5 March 2021.

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, will be published on the SAPOL website Disclosure Log. A copy of PC045 can be found at <http://dpc.sa.gov.au/what-we-do/services-for-government/premier-and-cabinet-circulars>. If you disagree with publication, please advise the undersigned in writing by **9 April 2021**.

Yours sincerely,


 Senior Sergeant First Class Tracy Gentgall
 Officer in Charge
Freedom of Information Unit
 (Accredited Freedom of Information Officer)

10 March 2021