



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

14 October 2019

John Luke
fyi-request-11294-d0aa529b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2019/20-0173

Dear John Luke

Official Information Act request: Aide-de-camp Positions with Governor General

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 26 September 2019. You requested:

"...Does New Zealand has any additional or honorary aides-de-camp (besides the two full time from the army) to the governor-general? Any civilian has been appointed in the past or at the moment?"

"I understand like other commonwealth countries they appointed civilian to the role of honorary aides-de-camp, are there any papers/memos discuss this initiative within New Zealand, if it does, may I request these papers/memos...."

In consultation with Government House and the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF), we have been advised the following in relation to the first part of your request:

- There are honorary aide-de-camps who assist the Governor-General on specific occasions, such as investiture and credentials ceremonies. They are nominated by NZDF from time to time and serve as a pool of officers who the Governor-General can call upon as needed.
- No civilian is currently appointed as an aide-de-camp. Records held by NZDF and Government House do not indicate that there has been a non-military appointment to this role in the past.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, which includes Government House, does not hold any papers or memos that discuss the appointment of a civilian to the role of honorary aide-de-camp.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely

Michael Webster
Clerk of the Executive Council