



**National Headquarters**

Level 12  
80 The Terrace  
PO Box 2133  
Wellington  
New Zealand

Phone +64 4 496 3600

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Hayden Marsh

By email: [fyi-request-20231-301499ac@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-20231-301499ac@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Hayden

**Information Request – Wakari Rural Fire Station**

I refer to your official information request dated 15 August 2022 asking for the following information.

*If the information is held, I am looking to find out why Wakari Rural Fire was moved to their current location on Wharf Street, and left the old location on Dean Street, and if any other locations were considered? (i.e. co-locate at Dunedin Central Fire Station).*

In accordance with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982, I am advised that the information you have requested is as follows:

The Civil Defence facility at Dean Street where the Wakari Rural Fire Force (now known as the Wakari Volunteer Fire Brigade) was previously co-located was not fit for purpose and not big enough for both Civil Defence and Rural Fire assets. This had been the case for some time.

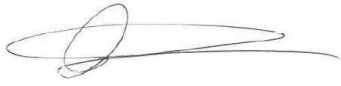
When the Wakari Rural Fire Force became part of the newly formed Fire and Emergency New Zealand, the Dunedin City Council asked that we vacate the Civil Defence facility in Dean Street and move to a more appropriate facility.

Fire and Emergency New Zealand stations in the greater Dunedin Area (including Dunedin Central Fire Station) do not have the capacity to house the Wakari Volunteer Fire Brigade. As a result, we entered into a short to mid-term lease option.

At this stage the Wakari Volunteer Fire Brigade will continue to operate from the current leased Wharf Street site.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa nā



Julia McCook-Weir  
Manager, Information Requests

