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OIA-2024-5024

12 June 2024

Jan Tempsky  
[fyi-request-26803-91a40351@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-26803-91a40351@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Jan Tempsky

I refer to your email of 15 May 2024, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), requesting a summary of recruitment targets for the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) for the past five years. You asked for this information to be broken down *to Service, trade group and geographic area*, as well as seeking the following:

- *Using the above categories, please provide the number of initial applications, the number of who completed the application process, and the number who arrived for initial training.*
- *Please also provide reasons for not completing the application process, including voluntary withdrawal or being assessed as unsuitable. If unsuitable, please provide broad categories on why there were assessed as unsuitable.*

The details of NZDF recruitment targets by trade provide insight on particular capability within the NZDF and are therefore withheld in accordance with section 6(a) of the OIA to avoid prejudice to the security or defence of New Zealand.

The tables enclosed provide data on NZDF recruitment for the past five calendar years (i.e. 2019-2023). Table A provides the number of initial applications, the region where the applicant was based, and the Service applied for. Table B provides the number of applicants who arrived for initial training and attested, by region where the applicant was based, and by Service. Completion of the application process is considered to be the point at which an applicant arrives for initial training and attests. Table C provides the reason why applications were declined.

- *Of recruits who arrived for initial training, please provide the figures for how many completed initial training, by service, trade group and geographic area.*

As stated above, details of recruitment by trade are withheld in accordance with section 6(a) of the OIA, and Table B provides the number of applicants who completed initial training by Service and region.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that responses to official information requests are proactively released where possible. This response to your request will be published shortly on the NZDF website, with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely

**AJ WOODS**

Air Commodore

Chief of Staff HQNZDF

**Enclosure:**

1. NZDF recruitment tables