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New Zealand Defence Force
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New Zealand

OIA-2024-5083

25 July 2024

Chris McCashin
fyi-request-27557-b6a12257@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Chris McCashin

I refer to your correspondence of 10 July 2024 to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). The following aspect of your request was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) on 17 July 2024 in accordance with section 14(b)(i) of the OIA:

Can you also provide any formal / informal memos, drafts, notes relating to increasing New Zealand's military personnel including compulsory draft, national service etc etc any and all initiatives that might have been discussed by the previous administration or the current administration...

Since providing support to the All of Government response to COVID-19, the NZDF has focussed efforts on reducing the rate of attrition, not increasing the base level of personnel across the three Services. While the introduction of a compulsory draft or national service would be a decision for the government of the day, the NZDF has not produced any information on such initiatives. As a result, your request is declined in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA as the requested information does not exist.

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 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.

Yours sincerely

AJ WOODS
Air Commodore
Chief of Staff HQNZDF