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OIA-2024-5081

15 August 2024

Mike Hunua
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Dear Mike Hunua

I refer to your email of 18 July 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

What are the NZDF's current plans for replacing Firefighting appliances?

Is the RNZAF still replacing their front-line ARFF with Oshkosh ARFF appliances and is there an update for this program?

What is the NZDF's intentions for retired appliances such as the NZ Armys MAN type 2s built in 2006, and Scania RNZAF ARFF and type 3 urban appliances that were ex FENZ?

Phase one of the Garrison, Administration and Training Support (GATS) project delivered two Aviation Rescue Fire Fighting vehicles (ARFFV), six Domestic Fire Appliances and 11 Rural Fire Appliances. These capabilities are currently undergoing introduction into service. Detail on any future procurement of these capabilities is withheld in accordance with section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the OIA, as it is subject to the Defence Capability Plan. This is to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

The MAN Type 2 and Scania Type 3 Domestic Fire Appliances will be refurbished by Lockheed Martin at the Trentham workshop. They will then be redistributed to their respective regions as back-up fire appliances until they are replaced and then withdrawn from service. The Scania ARFFV will be replaced under the GATS project but the date for their replacement is not confirmed. A specific disposal plan for each type of Appliance has not yet been undertaken.

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