



National Headquarters
Fire and Emergency New Zealand
National Headquarters
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19 March 2026

Ref: 20905

Harwood Wilson
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Tēnā koe Harwood

Thank you for your request of 19 February 2026 to Fire and Emergency New Zealand requesting information regarding political neutrality and employee conduct. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), and we copy and respond to each aspect of your request below.

Also, I further question in relation to the email correspondence PDF...

1. **Is FENZ policy to remain neutral on political aspects?*

As a Crown entity and part of the State sector, Fire and Emergency New Zealand and all personnel (paid and volunteer) are required to be politically neutral while at work.

2. **What action is being taken on the "Corporate affairs consultant FENZ" who has applauded ministers Valdeen and Brown within the email for criticising staff within their own organisation? if you are not going to specify what action has been taken, please specify if ANY action has been taken.*

This aspect of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist

3. **Do FENZ have a different code of conduct policy for different levels of employment? or are all held to the same level of account?*

Fire and Emergency has a single code of conduct that applies to all employees.

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

We trust that the information being provided is of assistance. If you require further information, please email officialinformationrequests@fireandemergency.nz

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Saunders'.

Aidan Saunders
Manager, Information Requests

