

Hon Chris Penk

Minister of Defence
Minister for Building and Construction
Minister for Veterans
Minister Responsible for the GCSB and NZSIS
Minister for Space
Associate Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery



21 April 2026

OIA26-121

Spencer Jones

fyi-request-34115-fad3bbc5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Jones,

I refer to your request of 17 March 2026, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, seeking *any Cabinet papers, Cabinet committee papers, or Cabinet briefings which reference advice, recommendations, or reports from the Veterans' Advisory Board (VAB).*

Your request was transferred to my office, as Minister for Veterans, on 17 March 2026.

You specified that your request includes:

1. *Cabinet papers discussing policy proposals informed by Veterans' Advisory Board advice.*
2. *Cabinet committee papers referencing recommendations made by the Veterans' Advisory Board.*
3. *Briefings prepared for Ministers or Cabinet committees summarising Veterans' Advisory Board advice.*

As per my previous response, I note you have made a number of similar information requests to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF). I consider that these requests will substantively cover any information held by my office relevant to your request, which can be released. You will receive a response or responses to your requests from the NZDF directly in due course.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'CP'.

Hon Chris Penk
Minister for Veterans