



**National Headquarters**  
Fire and Emergency New Zealand  
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22 May 2026

Ref: 21558

Harwood Wilson  
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Tēnā koe Harwood

Thank you for your request of 23 April 2026 to Fire and Emergency New Zealand requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- *The number of career appliances (including pumps, ladders, and specials) that were not operating at full capacity (either out of service or short-crewed) during the months of January, February, March, and April 2026.*

*Please table the number of hours these appliances were not operating at full capacity, by month and by reason (i.e. mechanical issues, no crew, short-crewed, industrial action, special events, etc.). This should exclude appliances recommissioning post-incident or callback appliances.*

*If any data is not available, please detail the reason it is not recorded and outline any plans Fire and Emergency New Zealand has to improve data collection and address issues contributing to appliances being out of service or short-crewed.*

This letter is to advise that Fire and Emergency needs to extend the timeframe of our response to your request by 5 working days, under section 15A(1)(b) of the OIA, as consultations necessary to make a decision on the request are such that a proper response to the request cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit.

For this reason, you can expect to receive our response no later than 29 May 2026. We will endeavour to respond sooner than this date if possible. If you no longer require this information, please let us know.

You have the right to request an investigation and review of Fire and Emergency's decision to extend the timeframe by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Aidan Saunders  
Manager, Information Requests

