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OIA-2023-4875

12 December 2023

██████████  
[thedisclosurepack@proton.me](mailto:thedisclosurepack@proton.me)

Dear ██████████

I refer to your email of 26 November 2023 regarding fitness testing for the New Zealand Army. You have asked for the following:

*I have recently seen a post online which indicates Army is considering amending the Required Fitness Level test. The post I saw indicated that the run test times were to be shortened for males and lengthened for females. I request:*

- *Anything that shows whether this was a bottom-up proposal (e.g. units were suggesting these changes) or whether it was a top-down proposal (e.g. AGS or some other HQ element directed the changes be investigated).*
- *Emails, minutes, decision briefs, dot point briefs, Powerpoints or other documents that set out the proposal and proposed time changes. I also request any of the scientific data that went into the proposed changes of the times*
- *Specifically what advice was given by NZAPTC on these proposed changes.*
- *Emails or other documents that set out the decision of the decision-maker at each level it has been considered to date (e.g. if Person 1 wrote to Person 2 suggesting a change, and he supported it and sent it on to Person 3 with comment, I request all of those decisions up the chain).*
- *Any emails or feedback from unit COs (including CO 1 NZSAS Regt) or HQ 1 (NZ) Bde or SOCC about the proposed changes.*
- *Any comment on the proposal from Director Diversity and Inclusion or any of her team.*

Your request has been considered in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). This matter is still under active consideration by the New Zealand Army. As such, all information related to your request is withheld in accordance with section 9(2)(g)(i) of the OIA in order to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions.

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](http://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