



Headquarters
New Zealand Defence Force
Defence House
Private Bag 39997
Wellington Mail Centre
Lower Hutt 5045
New Zealand

OIA-2024-5034

18 June 2024



Dear [REDACTED]

With respect to your many requests for information sent to various government agencies including the Ministry of Social Development, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Ministry of Health, and the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF). Your requests to the other agencies were transferred to the NZDF in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Your requests are made within a context of the NZDF being in control of a series of what you have described as "Not-for-profit" Commissions, you have specifically named the Health and Disability Commission.

The NZDF has no "Commissions", and has no authority over other government agencies. Therefore, your requests for information on these, and matters related to the operation of such "Commissions", are declined in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information requested does not exist.

Similarly, your request for *Fraudulent NZDF NFP Contracts with Civilian Captives Abducted into NZDF "Volunteerism" by TSE Tax-Exempted, "Non-Compulsory" (i.e; Structural-Operational Definition) "NPI Serving Households"* is also declined in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information requested does not exist.

Those who volunteer to become members of the Armed Forces in New Zealand are engaged for fixed-term periods as set by the single Service Chiefs. An engagement is not the same as an employment agreement under which most workers in New Zealand, such as members of the civilian staff, are employed. There is no two-way contractual obligation in an engagement as there is in an employment agreement. A member of the Armed Forces, having taken the oath of allegiance (or affirmation), binds themselves to serve in his or her respective Service in accordance with the tenor of that oath until released or otherwise discharged.

With respect to the Health and Disability Commission, you requested a copy of the *Certificate of Competency, as prescribed by the Chief of Defence Force, for the Director of Proceedings and Disciplinary Officer of the Health and Disability Commission's business enterprise*. The Chief of Defence Force does not prescribe or issue such a document and has no authority or responsibility for the operation of the Health and Disability Commission.

With respect to your request for the healthcare qualifications and dental qualifications held by [REDACTED]. This individual is no longer a member of the NZDF and does not hold the position of Surgeon General within the NZDF. Any personal information the NZDF may hold is withheld to protect privacy in accordance with section 9(2)(a) of the OIA.

With respect to your request for information concerning the bodies corporate of the New Zealand Dental Council and Medical Council of New Zealand, the NZDF has no authority or responsibility for these organisations and does not hold the unit titles or plans, valuers' certificates, operational rules, society rules, or certificates for these organisations.

Both Councils are authorities under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003, are governed by the provisions of that Act which is administered by the Ministry of Health. Information about the New Zealand Dental Council is available on their website: <https://www.dcnz.org.nz/>. Information about the Medical Council of New Zealand is available on their website: <https://www.mcnz.org.nz/about-us/>. For further information regarding these Councils you would be best placed to contact the Ministry of Health.

With respect to your request regarding the *Inspector-General of the NZDF*, the position is yet to be filled and is not the same as the Australian Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force. In July last year the Inspector General of Defence Bill was passed into law and it is expected that the Inspector General of Defence will be up and running within 18 months of the Bill passing into law.

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, with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely

New Zealand Defence Force