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OIA-2024-5082

15 August 2024

Mike Hunua

fyi-request-27689-75d9706a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mike Hunua

I refer to your email of 18 July 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information concerning the fire coverage at Burnham Military Camp. Specifically, you have requested the following information:

Does the NZDF still retain full-time Firefighting coverage of the Burnham Military Camp if not why not?

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) provides domestic fire coverage at Burnham Military Camp from Monday to Friday between 0800 and 1630 hours. The NZDF is unable to sustain full time coverage due to personnel shortages within the New Zealand Army Emergency Responder trade. Reducing its full time coverage to this daytime work week schedule ensures that it maximises sustainable coverage within its current capacity.

Has the NZDF relocated or reduced appliances based at Burnham?

The NZDF has recently rotated one fire appliance from Burnham Military Camp with another fire appliance at Base Woodbourne. There has been no reduction in the number of appliances at either station.

What is the expected coverage level for the camp?

There is no expected fire coverage. NZDF support to Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) forms part of Output 4.3 – Assistance to the Civil Power and Provision of a Public Service in Emergency Situations. The NZDF supports FENZ with the provision of New Zealand Army Emergency Responders and NZDF fire appliances by virtue of their existence to meet other outputs. Further detail is outlined in the Operational Service Agreement between the NZDF and FENZ. This document has been released previously and is publicly available on the NZDF website. It can be located in the Document Library as part of the 'OIA-2024-5013 Burnham Military Camp Fire' response.

Can you release the agreement between FENZ and the NZDF for mutual assistance and Fire coverage?

As noted above, the Operational Service Agreement between the NZDF and FENZ has been released previously and is publicly available on the NZDF website. Accordingly, this part of your is declined in accordance with section 18(d) of the OIA as the information you have requested is publicly available.

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.

Yours sincerely

AJ WOODS

Air Commodore

Chief of Staff HQNZDF