



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

OIA-2024-5148

31 October 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@nzme.co.nz

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 3 October 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA),

*Whether the New Zealand Defence Force currently has sufficient critical staff to operate all four of the Boeing P-8A Poseidon aircraft in its fleet.
Specific information regarding the availability of key personnel, such as pilots, maintenance staff, and support crew, to ensure full operational capacity of these aircraft.
If there are staffing shortages, could you please outline what steps are being taken to address these gaps and the expected timeline for reaching full staffing levels?
This information will be used as part of a report by the NZ Herald into New Zealand's current defence and airborne surveillance capabilities.*

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) has the key personnel, including pilots, maintenance staff, and support crew to operate its P-8A fleet within the current operating tempo.

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

AJ WOODS
Air Commodore
Chief of Staff HQNZDF