



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

OIA-2022-4542

/ November 2022



Dear 

I refer to your email of 18 October 2022 to the Ministry of Defence, requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information about a recent military exercise in West Auckland. Your request was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) in accordance with section 14(b)(i) of the OIA as the information you have requested is more closely aligned with the functions of the NZDF.

The NZDF undertook a counter-terrorism training exercise in the wider Auckland region between 17 and 21 October 2022. The exercise required night-time activities and the use of helicopters in accordance with civil aviation regulations. The New Zealand Police were aware that the exercise was taking place. No traffic disruption was planned.

Counter-terrorism exercises are undertaken to prepare NZDF personnel to respond quickly and appropriately to threats to New Zealand and its people. The NZDF understands that at times these exercises may cause some noise and inconvenience to the public, but the NZDF has an obligation to be prepared for the benefit of all New Zealanders.

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