



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

OIA-2023-4659

13 March 2023

B Stevenson

fyi-request-21966-ddcb590e@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear B Stevenson

I refer to your email of 2 March 2023 to the Ministry of Defence requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information about vaccination requirements for New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) personnel. Your request, outlined below, was transferred to the NZDF for response:

The Defence Careers website states entry requirements include x 2 covid-19 vaccines, yet many other jurisdictions like Canada and soon to be USA are abandoning thos requirement.

Does the New Zealand armed forces still impose a mandatory covid-19 vaccine requirement for all new recruits as of 01/03/2023. If so, are you looking into abandoning this position or is this the long term positioning on requirements into the armed forces.

Members of the New Zealand Armed Forces must meet individual readiness requirements, which include vaccinations set out in the NZDF Vaccination Schedule. The Vaccination Schedule requires vaccination against COVID-19 and a range of other diseases. The NZDF has no plans to change these vaccination requirements.

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