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New Zealand Defence Force  
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Lower Hutt 5045  
New Zealand

OIA-2023-4706

30<sup>th</sup> May 2023

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [parliament.govt.nz](http://parliament.govt.nz)

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 20 April 2023 to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information related to the Government's response to the Cyclone Gabrielle emergency. Your question regarding *what resources the army dispatched and to whom* was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) for response on 5 May 2023.

The NZDF provided significant support to the Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti regions as part of the all-of-Government emergency response to Tropical Cyclone Gabrielle. The response (involving the New Zealand Army, the Royal New Zealand Navy and the Royal New Zealand Air Force) was focused on emergency relief provided to, and through, other government agencies and directly within affected communities. A range of specialist NZDF capabilities were utilised. The New Zealand Army deployed the following resources in Hawke's Bay.

Hawke's Bay	Army Deployment	Personnel
Wairoa	Command and Liaison	22
	Signals Detachment	5
	Light Armoured Vehicle Troop	44
	Engineer Section with reverse osmosis system for water	8
Napier/ Hastings	Task Group Headquarters command and control, including Signals detachment	13
	Engineer Squadron including Engineer Reconnaissance, rigid hull inflatable boats and plant machinery	84
	Logistics elements including transport, supply and warehousing, showers, laundry, mortuary and workshops	171

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](http://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