



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

OIA-2025-5318

 April 2025

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 20 February 2025 to various Ministers regarding housing services and support for members of the LGBTQ+ (“Rainbow”) community. The following part of your request was transferred by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) on 24 March 2025:

What targeted housing supports exist for Rainbow veterans to ensure their needs are met appropriately?

Veterans’ Affairs (VA), which is an operational unit of the NZDF, is responsible for the delivery of entitlements under the Veterans’ Support Act 2014. The primary intent of this legislation is to provide support to veterans with injury or illness that has occurred because of their qualifying service. These entitlements do not aim to provide a solution for every potential need or requirement a veteran may have, because veterans are also entitled to support from other government agencies, like any other New Zealander.

VA support includes services aimed at keeping veterans living independently in their own homes, or housing modifications for limitations caused by the veteran’s accepted injury or illness. This housing support is for all veterans and there is no targeted support particularly for *Rainbow veterans*.

VA does not own any housing, nor is it a function of VA to provide support to veterans to help them find and secure accommodation. If accommodation is an issue for a veteran, VA may refer them to the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services’ Association, or the Ministry of Social Development.

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

GA Motley
Brigadier
Chief of Staff HQNZDF