



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

OIA-2023-4767

27th July 2023

██████████
██████████@gmail.com

Dear ██████████

I refer to your email of 28 June 2023 requesting the following information concerning procurement from Roboteam:

- 1. Clearly there has been at least one procurement before the 2019 \$9 million procurement: that referred to by the Minister in Attachment 4, paragraph beginning: "The selection...". What is the date (just the year and month will be fine) of award and payment of that previous (pre-2019 \$9 million deal) Roboteam procurement? I assume the payment date was January 2018?*
- 2. What are the approximate (month will be fine) award and payment dates of any other NZDF/MOD procurements from Roboteam prior to 2014 and after May of 2021?*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

There has been one procurement with Roboteam, that being the 2019 purchase through Trakka Tech. This process began in January 2018 with the Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) Request for Tender by the Ministry of Defence. Roboteam was one of the respondees offering the supply of equipment and services. The process was completed with final delivery in November 2019.

During the tender evaluation process, the Ministry conducted due diligence into the suitability of Roboteam to act as a supplier. Roboteam was shortlisted as a contender for the award of the UGV contract. The Ministry project team, which included New Zealand Defence Force personnel, then visited Roboteam facilities in Israel to conduct testing and evaluation of the proposed solutions. Funds were committed from the project budget to enable this travel. This financial commitment is the source for the "previous procurement from Roboteam" statement made by the then Minister.

As a result, there are no other procurements from Roboteam before 2014 or since May 2021.

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