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OIA-2025-5482

25<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Ian Martyn

[fyi-request-27616-4315a7aa@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-27616-4315a7aa@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Ian Martyn

I refer to your email of 27 June 2025 requesting a follow-up from OIA-2024-5080 under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), regarding the delegations for Long Service Awards.

The options for internal delegations and sub-delegations are still under consideration. There is no timeframe specified for when these delegations will be finalised. With this information in mind, however, I would like to make the following comments, which I hope are of assistance to you.

If an ex-service person wishes to appeal a declined Long Service Award application, this can be done by writing to the relevant Service Chief asking for a review. Advice would be provided to the Service Chief by the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) Medals Policy group, and if a mistake was made or special circumstances exist, the advice can include who can approve the award.

Regardless of any sub-delegations signed by the Chief of Defence Force (CDF), the CDF still holds the legal authority to approve any awards if required.

I would also like to reassure you that, regardless of the approval status of award authority sub-delegations, the NZDF does have capacity to consider or decline award application appeals, or to approve awards being issued.

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

**GA Motley**

Brigadier

Chief of Staff HQNZDF