



Headquarters
New Zealand Defence Force
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Lower Hutt 5045
New Zealand

OIA-2025-5545

 October 2025

Tom Wells
fyi-request-32383-79b6b966@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Tom Wells

I refer to your email of 24 September 2025 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), *information on any current NZDF (specifically NZ Army) policy regarding the use of non-issued personal equipment (eg knives, Boots, Pouches, Packs, and the like), and whether there is a list etc of approved vendors/equipment.*

In accordance with policy, all New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) personnel are issued approved items under the Scale of Entitlement (SOE). An SOE is set for each rank and trade across the NZDF and is tailored according to the role and speciality of each officer, soldier, sailor, and aviator.

For the NZ Army, SOEs have been designed to ensure individuals are equipped to function within any given environment or role, and to provide a level of standardisation. It is not policy for personnel to purchase their own equipment for their roles and, therefore, there is no authorised list of vendors or equipment.

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