



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

22nd October 2025

OIA-2025-5570



Graham Gibson
President
Auckland Returned and Services Association Incorporated
info@aucklandrsa.org.nz

Dear Graham Gibson

I refer to your letter of 13 October 2025 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following:

- *Since 1990, please advise how many serving members or ex-service members of the NZDF that have been awarded the New Zealand Operational Service Medal (NZOSM), granted as 'qualifying operational service' under the Veterans' Support Act 2014.*
- *Plus, the numbers of those who have achieved neither and therefore have been designated as being only 'routine service'.*
- *Please advise numbers by category and operational deployments and note overlap (multiple tours) where applicable between groups.*

The data set for awarding the New Zealand Operational Service Medal is distinct to that supporting qualifying operational service under the Veterans' Support Act 2014. No work has been undertaken to generate the requested information, nor is there a system in place to do so. The requested information cannot be made available to you because the substantial work involved to generate it would impair the efficient administration of the New Zealand Defence Force. This is in accordance with section 16(2)(a) of the OIA.

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.

Yours sincerely

GA Motley
Brigadier
Chief of Staff HQNZDF