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OIA-2026-5623

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

A. Mosely  
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Dear A. Moseley

I refer to your email of 2 January 2026 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the below information about New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) uniform issue to the New Zealand Cadet Forces (NZCF).

*Does the NZCC intend to switch to a different working dress, if so what would this look like? Would current issued uniforms be used or are there other alternatives in place?*

A project is underway involving the NZDF's current uniform supplier, Australian Defence Apparel New Zealand, to explore options around the provision of a NZCF uniform. Any new uniform is likely to be based on Multi-Camouflage Uniform fabric in the short term, and New Zealand Multi-Terrain Pattern fabric in the long term.

*Are any type NZDPM uniforms still being produced for the NZCC? This including any accessories which may go with them such as J-Hats, Rank slides, ect. As I am aware the NZDPM was phased out somewhere around 2015 for the Air Force.*

No New Zealand Disruptive Pattern Material uniform is currently in production.

*Are there any current NZDF issued uniforms being used by NZCF, if so what and by who?*

Only current NZDF personnel are permitted to wear currently issued operational uniforms. Some items of current NZDF Service Dress uniforms are in use by the NZCF, for ceremonial purposes.

*What are the differences between 'CWDs' and 'GPUs'? (Air Cadets) As I am aware that GPU's were Air Force uniforms while CWDs are some sort of NZCF only uniform?*

Cadet Working Dress is a uniform used specifically by NZCF Air and Sea Cadets. The General Purpose Uniform is an obsolete Royal New Zealand Air Force standard working dress that was provided to NZCF as a donation due to its close resemblance to CWD.

*Does the NZDF have a stance on the use of current and or out of service NZDF uniforms by members of NZCF? As to me I don't quite understand why surplus uniforms are not used to supply the NZCF rather than making a whole different type.*

The NZDF's stance is to take a pragmatic approach to best utilising surplus or former uniform stock and the NZCF is always given the option to obtain it. The only uniform items

not offered to NZCF are those that have security considerations, such as body armour or operational combat uniform.

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.

Yours sincerely

**GA Motley**  
Brigadier  
Chief of Staff HQNZDF