



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

OIA-2025-5640

27th January 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 10 November 2025 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

1. *How many NZDF staff from 2nd/1st Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment assigned to work within MIQs between 1 June 2020 and 1 April 2022*
2. *Which dates were these*
3. *At which locations*

I apologise for the delay in responding to your request. A review of all centralised records regarding Operation Protect was undertaken to identify what deployment information is available.

Over the duration of Operation Protect approximately 6,300 New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) personnel were employed at Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities. The determination of this figure was produced by querying databases that recorded the payment of allowances. Readily retrievable NZDF data does not hold the requested information. A special research team would have to be established to review relevant documents and individual files. This would impair the efficient administration of the NZDF pursuant to 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, with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely

GA Motley
Brigadier
Chief of Staff HQNZDF