



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

OIA-2026-5855-

8th July 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 18 June 2026 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information about the use of the New Zealand Army Crest patch:

1. *What has the NZ Army/AGS/NZDF provided in terms of a patch with the NZ Army crest, for those who served in the NZ Army - but did not serve in the AGS - to wear or use?*

The New Zealand Army Crest patch is currently used as the formation identification patch for Army General Staff (AGS) and The Army Depot (TAD). Personnel serving in units and formations across the New Zealand Army are required to wear the authorised formation, unit, corps, or appointment insignia applicable to their position in accordance with current dress regulations and policy. No patches featuring the New Zealand Army Crest have been provided or authorised for wear by personnel outside of AGS or TAD.

2. *Who is the supplier/manufacture of the patch, with the NZ Army crest, as used (exclusively) by AGS?*

New Zealand Army Crest patches are procured through the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) supply system. Orders are typically supplied through contracted uniform and insignia providers. The current primary clothing vendor is Australian Defence Apparel NZ.

3. *Why do AGS believe they are the only ones who are entitled to wear the NZ Army crest?*
4. *What are the reasons for this decision/how was this decision justified?*

The assignment of the New Zealand Army Crest patch to AGS and TAD reflects their function as organisations operating on behalf of the wider New Zealand Army rather than as individual corps, units, or formations. The Crest serves as an identifying insignia representing the New Zealand Army institutionally. No specific document has been identified that records the original rationale or decision-making process relating to the adoption of the New Zealand Army Crest as the formation patch for AGS and TAD.

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