



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

OIA-2026-5918

11th August 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 3 August 2026, requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) *all communications between your agency and the Labour Party Leaders' Office, from 3 February 2025 to today's date.*

Enclosed are copies of the correspondence within scope. Where indicated, personal information is withheld to protect privacy in accordance with section 9(2)(a) of the OIA. These were requests for information, copies of the responses are publicly available on the New Zealand Defence Force website¹.

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

Enclosures:

1. Correspondence

¹ <https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/assets/Uploads/DocumentLibrary/OIA-2026-5657-Emergency-Aircraft-Requests.pdf>
<https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/assets/Uploads/DocumentLibrary/OIA-2026-5767.1-Emergency-Requests-NEMA.pdf>
<https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/assets/Uploads/DocumentLibrary/OIA-2026-5763-Assessments-and-fuel-contingency-planning.pdf>
<https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/assets/Uploads/DocumentLibrary/OIA-2026-5814-Minister-Travel.pdf>
<https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/assets/Uploads/DocumentLibrary/OIA-2026-5820-Budget-2026-options.pdf>

From: Ministerial Services
Sent: Thursday, 19 March 2026 12:23 p.m.
To: 'LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz'
Subject: RE: OIA0151 - Aircraft tasking requests during Southland/Clutha emergency - OIA-2026-5657 [UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: OIA-2026-5657-signed-response.pdf; Enclosure-1.pdf

Good afternoon s. 9(2)(a)

Please find attached the response to your request.

Regards

Corporate and Ministerial Services
Office of the Chief of Defence Force
New Zealand Defence Force | Te Ope Kātua o Aotearoa
www.nzdf.mil.nz



**A FORCE FOR
NEW ZEALAND**

From: LabourResearch [<mailto:LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz>]
Sent: Wednesday, 4 February 2026 4:10 p.m.
To: Ministerial Services <ministerialservices@nzdf.mil.nz>; information@dpmc.govt.nz
Subject: OIA0151 - Aircraft tasking requests during Southland/Clutha emergency (Oct–Nov 2025)

Kia ora

I request the following under the OIA:

This request relates to the declared States of Local Emergency in Southland Region and Clutha District between approximately 24 October and 7 November 2025.

This request applies to any relevant information held by either agency. If either NZDF or NEMA holds information within scope, I request that the request not be transferred and that each agency respond in respect of the information it holds.

I request the following:

1. Copies of any requests (formal or informal) made between 20 October and 7 November 2025 by NEMA, Civil Defence Emergency Management groups, regional or local authorities, or any other agencies for NZDF aircraft assistance in relation to this emergency.
2. Records showing which NZDF aircraft types were requested, discussed, or considered for use (including both fixed-wing and rotary platforms).
3. Any internal correspondence, briefings, situation reports, or decision records held by either agency that reference:

- aircraft availability for this emergency; and/or
 - assessment of suitability of different aircraft types for personnel transport or logistics support.
4. If any aircraft were requested but not deployed, the recorded reasons for this (for example operational constraints, availability, prioritisation, or capability considerations).
 5. If no requests were received for certain aircraft types, confirmation of that fact.

Where a document that falls under scope of this request cannot be released, please supply a summary of that document's contents. Where any document falls under the scope of this request, please release it in full, including sections which might otherwise be considered out of scope.

Kind regards

s. 9(2)(a) | Senior Researcher

Labour Leader's Office

Authorised by Chris Hipkins MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

From: Ministerial Services
Sent: Monday, 8 June 2026 4:21 p.m.
To: 'LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz'
Subject: RE: OIA0204 - C-130 tasking 30 October to 7 November 2025 [UNCLASSIFIED] - OIA-2026-5657.1
Attachments: OIA-2026-5657.1-signed-response.pdf; OIA-2026-5657.1_Enclosure-1.pdf

Good afternoon s. 9(2)(a)

Please find attached the response to your request.

We apologise for the delay.

Regards

Corporate and Ministerial Services

Office of the Chief of Defence Force
New Zealand Defence Force | Te Ope Kātua o Aotearoa
www.nzdf.mil.nz



**A FORCE FOR
NEW ZEALAND**

From: LabourResearch [<mailto:LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz>]
Sent: Wednesday, 15 April 2026 1:03 p.m.
To: Ministerial Services <ministerialservices@nzdf.mil.nz>
Subject: OIA0204 - C-130 tasking 30 October to 7 November 2025

Dear NZDF Official Information Act Team,

I request the following information under the Official Information Act 1982:

1. Any records showing the operational tasking of NZDF C-130 aircraft between 30 October and 7 November 2025, including the nature of any tasks that precluded support to NEMA emergency requests during this period.
2. Any communications, orders or records explaining why NZDF advised on 30 October 2025 that 'all assets required to support this task are assigned to other operational outputs' in response to a NEMA request to redeploy FENZ generators .
3. Any records showing whether, during this same period, a decision was made to prioritise those other operational outputs over continued support to the Southland/Clutha State of Local Emergency, and who made that decision.

This request relates to NZDF OIA reference OIA-2026-5657.

Cheers

s. 9(2)(a) | Senior Researcher

Labour Leader's Office

s. 9(2)(a)

Authorised by Chris Hipkins MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

Ministerial Services

From: Ministerial Services
Sent: Friday, 8 May 2026 1:44 p.m.
To: 'LabourResearch'
Subject: RE: [unclassified] RE: OIA0203 - Fuel advice
Attachments: OIA-2026-5763_Response-signed.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a response to the below request.

Regards

Corporate and Ministerial Services

OCDF, Office of Chief of Defence Force
New Zealand Defence Force

www.nzdf.mil.nz



A FORCE FOR
NEW ZEALAND

From: Ministerial Services
Sent: Friday, 10 April 2026 11:36 a.m.
To: 'LabourResearch' <LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: [unclassified] RE: OIA0203 - Fuel advice

Good morning s. 9(2)(a)

Your request below has been received and a decision on your request will be provided as soon as possible and no later than 11 May 2026. Responses to requests for information that are considered to be in the wider public interest will be published on the New Zealand Defence Force website (www.nzdf.mil.nz). Your personal information will not be published.

With respect to the highlighted part of your request below – could you please confirm that you have sent this request to the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment as the lead agency? And it would also be helpful to know if you have also made this request to the Ministry of Defence, as a separate agency to the Defence Force, thereby negating the administrative requirement to transfer the request.

Regards

Corporate and Ministerial Services

OCDF, Office of Chief of Defence Force
New Zealand Defence Force

www.nzdf.mil.nz



A FORCE FOR
NEW ZEALAND

From: LabourResearch [<mailto:LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz>]
Sent: Friday, 10 April 2026 10:56 a.m.
To: Ministerial Services <ministerialservices@nzdf.mil.nz>
Subject: OIA0203 - Fuel advice

Kia ora

I request copies of the following under the OIA:

1. Any NZDF or Ministry of Defence assessments from June 2025 to February 2026 of the strategic energy security implications for New Zealand of Middle East conflict escalation, including assessments of Strait of Hormuz closure risk.
2. All documents relating to the New Zealand Defence Force's fuel contingency planning, including: (a) current NZDF fuel stockholding levels and reserve targets by fuel type; (b) NZDF's designated priority band and entitlements under the Fuel Response Plan 2026; (c) any plans, exercises, or assessments completed since 1 January 2024 relating to NZDF operational continuity under a sustained liquid fuel supply disruption.

Where a document that falls under scope of this request cannot be released, please supply a summary of that document's contents. Where any document falls under the scope of this request, please release it in full, including sections which might otherwise be considered out of scope.

Kind regards

S. 9(2)(a) | Senior Researcher

Labour Leader's Office

Authorised by Chris Hipkins MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

From: Ministerial Services
Sent: Monday, 8 June 2026 12:56 p.m.
To: 'LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz'
Subject: RE: OIA0222 - Budget 2026 savings and workforce changes [UNCLASSIFIED] - OIA-2026-5820
Attachments: OIA-2026-5820-signed-response.pdf

Good afternoon s. 9(2)(a)

Please find attached the response to your request.

Regards

Corporate and Ministerial Services
Office of the Chief of Defence Force
New Zealand Defence Force | Te Ope Kātua o Aotearoa
www.nzdf.mil.nz



**A FORCE FOR
NEW ZEALAND**

From: LabourResearch [<mailto:LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz>]
Sent: Thursday, 28 May 2026 2:01 p.m.
To: LabourResearch <LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: OIA0222 - Budget 2026 savings and workforce changes

Kia ora

Under the OIA, I request the following information held by your agency / entity relating to the Budget 2026 public sector savings exercise:

1. The agency's Budget 2026 savings options paper(s) or initiative bids submitted to the Treasury or the Minister between 1 September 2025 and 19 May 2026.
2. Any document showing any FTE reduction expected at the agency as a result of Budget 2026, broken down by business group, function, or location to the extent that breakdown exists.
3. Any document held by the agency that defines or identifies which of its roles are considered 'frontline' and which are not, for the purpose of the Budget 2026 exercise.
4. Any business case, modelling, or analysis dated between 1 September 2025 and present concerning the use of AI, automation, or digital tools to replace, reduce, or substitute roles within the agency.
5. Any change proposal, indicative structure document, or consultation document issued to staff or unions on or before the date of this request relating to the Budget 2026 savings exercise.

6. Correspondence between the Chief Executive (or equivalent) and the Minister, the Treasury, or the Public Service Commissioner between 1 January 2026 and present concerning the savings exercise or workforce reductions.

Where a document that falls under scope of this request cannot be released, please supply a summary of that document's contents. Please include 'OIA0222' in any correspondence relating to this request where possible.

Kind regards

s. 9(2)(a) | Senior Researcher

Labour Leader's Office

Authorised by Chris Hipkins MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

From: Ministerial Services
Sent: Monday, 27 July 2026 4:10 p.m.
To: 'LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz'
Subject: RE: OIA0215 - Use of aircraft by ministers [UNCLASSIFIED] - OIA-2026-5814
Attachments: OIA-2026-5814-signed-response.pdf; Enclosure-1.pdf; Enclosure-2.pdf

Good afternoon **s. 9(2)(a)**

Please find attached the response to your request.

Regards

Corporate and Ministerial Services

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New Zealand Defence Force | Te Ope Kātua o Aotearoa
www.nzdf.mil.nz



**A FORCE FOR
NEW ZEALAND**

From: LabourResearch [<mailto:LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz>]
Sent: Thursday, 21 May 2026 12:09 p.m.
To: Ministerial Services <ministerialservices@nzdf.mil.nz>
Subject: OIA0215 - Use of aircraft by ministers

Kia ora

I request the following information under the OIA, covering the period 27 November 2023 to the date of this request, unless otherwise specified.

1. A list of all flights on RNZAF aircraft (including but not limited to the Boeing 757s) carrying the Prime Minister or any other Minister of the Crown. For each flight, please provide: a. Date(s) and route/destination; b. Aircraft type and total flight hours; c. Operating cost for the flight; d. The Minister(s) on board; e. The total number of passengers; and f. A breakdown of passengers by category — ministerial staff, officials/public servants, other Ministers, MPs, media representatives, business representatives, and any other category (please specify).
2. The current policy and any related guidelines governing charges to non-government passengers (including media and business representatives) travelling on RNZAF aircraft with a Minister or official delegation. Please include any changes to this policy since 1 January 2023.
3. For the period covered by question 1, the total value of any charges raised against non-government passengers for travel on RNZAF aircraft, the total amount actually paid, and the total amount outstanding.
4. The total value of any charges for travel on RNZAF aircraft by non-government passengers that remain unpaid as at the date of this request, including amounts relating to periods prior to 27 November 2023. A breakdown by flight or by financial year would be appreciated.

5. In relation to flights carrying the Prime Minister on RNZAF aircraft during the period, please confirm whether members of any accompanying business delegation were charged for their travel and, if so, the total amount charged and the total amount paid.

If any part of this request is more properly held by another agency (for example DPMC, Ministerial Services, or MFAT), please transfer that part under section 14 of the Act and advise me of the transfer.

Where a document that falls under scope of this request cannot be released, please supply a summary of that document's contents. Where any document falls under the scope of this request, please release it in full, including sections which might otherwise be considered out of scope.

s. 9(2)(a) | Senior Researcher

Labour Leader's Office

s. 9(2)(a)

Authorised by Chris Hipkins MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington