



New Zealand
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OIA-2019-3692

18 December 2019

A Wellesley

fyi-request-11739-e5ab37da@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear A Wellesley

I refer to your request of 26 November 2019, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), for aggregated data from psychological testing for specified inclinations/characteristics.

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) conducts psychological testing for various reasons. It plays a part in: selecting appropriate individuals into certain trades and ranks when they first apply to the NZDF; selecting uniformed personnel for trade change into specific trades; leadership development courses to assist in developing self-awareness; workshops designed to build team performance.

There are various psychometric tools used for these activities, depending on the nature of the information being sought. None of these tools gather information that could give any indication of political preferences. Neither are they clinical tools that might be designed to measure compulsive lying, gross over-estimation or recreation of sensory information. The tools are designed to gather information based on the five primary dimensions of personality: *extroversion*, *openness to experiences*, *agreeableness*, *conscientiousness* and *emotional stability*.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request.

Yours sincerely

A.J. WOODS
Air Commodore
Chief of Staff HQNZDF

**A FORCE FOR
NEW ZEALAND**