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**MANATŪ KAUPAPA
WAONGA**
NEW ZEALAND
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

27 April 2021

Alan Campbell
fyi-request-15264-3364642d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Campbell

RESPONSE TO YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 23 April 2021, in which you requested, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

Provide information on the risk assessment completed by the Ministry of Defence in relation to the COVID-19 vaccine.

Provide information on any input provided to the NZDF into the decision-making process used to mandate the vaccine given the low risk of COVID-19 in the people under the control of the NZDF.

Provide information on any advice provided to the NZDF on what career impacts NZDF personal may incur if they are to sustain a significant side effect from the vaccine.

Provide information on what discussions have been held with the NZ Government and other government agencies including the Ministry of Health relating to the provision of the vaccine to NZDF personal.

Provide information on any other aspect of the proposed vaccine deployment that may be pertinent given the questions above.

The Ministry of Defence is not involved in the vaccination of New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) personnel, and has not provided advice to the NZDF on this matter. Accordingly, I am declining your request under section 18(e) of the Act.

I understand that you have also requested this information from the NZDF directly. They are best placed to respond to your request. As they have already received this request, I have not formally transferred your request to them.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to request the Ombudsman to investigate and review this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carol Douglass', with a stylized, cursive script.

Carol Douglass
Deputy Secretary
Governance, People and Executive Services