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

1 February 2022

M. Fitzgibbon  
fyi-request-18378-4b3aea26@requests.fyi.org.nz  
fyi-request-18380-d68a8c1d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Fitzgibbon

## **RESPONSE TO YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST**

Thank you for your two emails of 31 January 2022 in which you requested, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

Request 1:

*I am requesting any advice provided by the Ministry of Defence to the Minister of Defence, about the COVID-19 vaccination of NZDF staff, and also advice provided concerning the subsequent vaccine mandate made by government.*

*I also request all advice provided by the Ministry of Defence to the Minister of Defence, about the NZDF COVID-19 vaccination policy and the NZ Bill of Rights act 1990, also all advice provided by either the NZDF to the ministry or by the ministry to the Minister concerning the NZ Government Mandate requiring NZDF Staff be vaccinated and the NZ Bill of Rights act 1990.*

*I am also requesting copies of all correspondence between the Ministry of Defence and the Minister of Defence and vice versa concerning the above matters.*

Request 2:

*Any correspondence between the ministry and the NZDF and vice versa, and between the Ministry and the Minister and vice versa, about either;*  
*1) what to do if NZDF Staff should decline the Vaccine, or*  
*2) the dismissal of NZDF Staff who refuse the COVID-19 vaccination.*

The information you have requested is more closely associated with the NZDF, which is a separate organisation from the Ministry of Defence. Accordingly, I am transferring your request to that organisation, pursuant to section 14(b)(i) of the Act.

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

Yours sincerely



Carol Douglass  
**Deputy Secretary Governance, People and Executive Services**

cc: NZDF Ministerial Services  
[ministerialservices@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:ministerialservices@nzdf.mil.nz)