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New Zealand Defence Force  
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New Zealand

OIA-2023-4728

12<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Vic

[fyi-request-22788-82f8ca87@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-22788-82f8ca87@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Vic

I refer to your email of 12 May 2023 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the amount *recruits charged daily and weekly for accommodation and food on base*. Your request was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) in accordance with the OIA.

Accommodation charges for recruits living in NZDF quarters are waived; however, this incurs a non-cash benefit tax that varies based on individual tax code. This is administered through Inland Revenue. For the camps and bases at which recruits are accommodated, the non-cash benefit tax is \$31.00 a fortnight (\$2.21 a day) at Waiouru, and \$43.00 a fortnight (\$3.00 a day) at Woodbourne and Devonport.

The charge for rations are the same for all NZDF personnel, including recruits, based on the meal they consume. Personnel do not pay if they choose not to eat. The meal charges per person are outlined in the table below:

Meal Type	Standard	Waiouru
Breakfast	\$4.04	\$4.05
Lunch	\$7.12	\$7.18
Dinner	\$7.07	\$7.11

Meal rates are slightly higher at Waiouru as a result of the high intensity physical activities undertaken by recruits and the corresponding need for a higher calorie intake.

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](http://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

**AJ WOODS**

Air Commodore

Chief of Staff HQNZDF