

13 July 2023

Frank
fyi-request-23079-7bed71c5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Our ref: OIA 105428

Tēnā koe Frank

Official information act request: Seismic resilience

Thank you for your email of 10 June 2023, to the Canterbury Regional Council requesting information relating to the seismic resilience of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).

On 20 June 2023, your request was transferred to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) as it is the owner of the Christchurch Justice and Emergency Services Precinct (CJESP) in which the EOC is based. Specifically, you requested:

Please identify for your CDEM Group and it's members each building that is currently identified as the building intended/likely to be used as -the ECC -an EOC after a seismic event. Please provide the buildings current %nbs at IL4, the date of the last assessment, and the type of seismic assessment completed. Alternately if you do not hold/cannot provide the above please provide the last seismic assessment for the buildings identified above

I have interpreted your request to be requiring information for the Canterbury region, only.

In response to the first part of your request, I can confirm that the EOC is based within the Emergency Services Building at CJESP, 40 Lichfield St, Christchurch. CJESP brings together all justice and emergency services in one purpose-built building and contains three official Civil Emergency response service providers, being:

- a) Christchurch City Council – Civil Defence & Emergency Management (Local)
- b) Environment Canterbury – Regional Civil Defence & Emergency Management
- c) National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

During an emergency event, other onsite precinct agencies (i.e., the New Zealand Police, Fire and Emergency New Zealand, Hato Hone St John and Department of Corrections) will become involved in the response and, depending on the type and nature of the incident, will determine the lead agency for that event. Other external agencies may also become involved in the case of a significant event. Due to the varying nature of emergencies, it is difficult to know which specific organisations and personnel will attend to the EOC during an event. Therefore, I am refusing the part of your request asking to identify the Civil Defence Emergency Management Groups members, under section 18(g) of the Act as the

information requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds for believing it is held by another agency subject to the Act.

Before answering the second part of your request, it is important to provide some background information on the CJESP building. Earthquake-prone buildings are given an earthquake rating, commonly referred to as a percentage of the New Building Standard (%NBS). These ratings assess the degree to which the building meets the seismic performance requirements of the Building Code. As the CJESP is an Importance Level 4 (IL4) building, it has been built in accordance with the seismic performance requirements of the Building Code. The CJESP was opened in 2017 and is considered a 'new build', so it has been built to achieve a 100% NBS rating. Therefore, no seismic assessments have been undertaken. I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information does not exist.

If you require any further information, please contact Media & Social Media Manager Joe Locke at media@justice.govt.nz.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Tina Wakefield

Deputy Secretary Corporate & Digital Services