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Fire and Emergency New Zealand
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Ref: 14444

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Mike Hunua
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Tēnā koe Mike

Thank you for your request of 16 May 2024, to Fire and Emergency New Zealand requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- 1. Could Fire and Emergency release the findings, recommendations and changes that the New Zealand Fire Service made in the wake of the fatal Tamahere Coolstore explosion and Fire in 2008?*
- 2. Could the Incident CAD report from the April 2008 incident also be released?*

We can advise that following this incident, the former New Zealand Fire Service (NZFS) produced a report titled *Inquiry into the Explosion and Fire at Icepak Coolstores, Tamahere, on 5 April 2008*. This report contains both the findings and recommendations made in relation to the fire. It can be found on the Parliament website [here](#). We are therefore refusing this aspect of your request under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information requested is publicly available.

Regarding changes made, we can advise that two changes were implemented across all NZFS fire stations in response to this incident. First, gas detectors were purchased and provided to all frontline appliances. Second, risk planning was required to be conducted for the first response area for each station. Until then, most stations only conducted risk planning within their designated NZFS urban fire districts. Responsibility for sites outside their district was the responsibility of the rural fire authority. This change meant that stations conducted risk planning for incidents that could occur at high-risk facilities outside their district boundaries.

Please find attached, as **Appendix One** to this response, a copy of the ICAD report. Some information has been withheld from the ICAD Report pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons. In making this decision, we have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA.

We have also redacted the names of personnel involved with this incident and these have been labelled as out of scope in the attached PDF. However, if you want their names, please let us know. We may need to consult with the individuals concerned, which may take some time.

Please note that in ICAD Reports, the 'Notifications' and 'Message Log' fields are reported in real time as fire crews and our communication centres communicate with each other during the incident. They are not the official final records of incidents but word for word transcripts of 'live' situations as they occur. For this reason, they may contain spelling errors or commonly used abbreviations.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

We trust that the information being provided is of assistance. If you require further information, please email officialinformationrequests@fireandemergency.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Aidan Saunders
Manager, Information Requests

