



National Headquarters
Fire and Emergency New Zealand
National Headquarters
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4 October 2024

Ref: 15616

Russell N
fyi-request-27998-b636d53f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Russell

Thank you for your request of 10 September 2024, to Fire and Emergency New Zealand requesting information that followed on from a response we provided to you on 6 September 2024. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) and our response is below.

- 1. Provide the original email (form submission) to NHQ Communications that outlined the issue, redacting any personal information;*
- 2. Confirmation if an existing member of Fire and Emergency New Zealand made the initial complaint regarding the brand use;*

The original email and any information relating to it is being withheld under the following sections of the OIA:

- 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of natural persons; and
- 9(2)(ba)(i), to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information – would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.

As was previously advised in our letter to you dated 6 September 2024, we consider this to be subject to an obligation of confidence. We believe that there would be a chilling effect if people were aware that their details and information they provide to us could be made public. People may be less forthcoming with the information they provide to Fire and Emergency or may simply choose not to report their concerns.

- 3. Confirmation if the persons involved with Beehive RP were existing members of Fire and Emergency New Zealand;*

This information is not held by Fire and Emergency. For this reason, this portion of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

- 4. All external communications regarding this, such as a copy of any emails or letters sent to Beehive RP;*

Please find attached, as an **Appendix** to this response, all external communications regarding this matter. Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons.

Some information that is embedded within our release to you is outside the of scope of your request and does not relate to the requested information. Where this has occurred, it will be clearly labelled as out of scope.

Further external correspondence relating to Beehive RP, including letters sent to them, has been withheld in full under section 9(2)(h) of the OIA, to maintain legal professional privilege.

- 5. How many external companies were involved with the legal process of this matter;*

We can advise Fire and Emergency engaged the services of one external law firm.

- 6. Was there liaison with other services such as New Zealand Police and Hato Hone St John on this matter;*

We can confirm there was liaison with New Zealand Police on this matter. The correspondence has been provided in the attached **Appendix**.

- 7. What is the total amount of time Fire and Emergency New Zealand spent investigating this matter;*

The work undertaken to investigate this matter includes several teams across Fire and Emergency as part of their BAU, which means that the time taken is not recorded and we would be required to create information by estimating how much of each team or individuals resource may have been required. For this reason, this portion of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

- 8. Does Fire and Emergency New Zealand believe that by Beehive RP using this property, it harms the reputation of FENZ?*

Fire and Emergency considers that the unauthorised use of our trademarks and branding could be misleading to the public and might impact our reputation as a fire and emergency services organisation.

In making the above decisions, we have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA.

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

