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Ref: 15467

Alan Thompson  
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Tēnā koe Alan

Thank you for your request of 28 August 2024, to Fire and Emergency New Zealand requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- You provided IAPs that were incomplete, and clearly not correct. You withdrew these documents advising that they were not the final versions sent in error. You refused to release the finals advising that the incident was subject to some investigation. I submit a further request for these documents.*

*Under the provisions of the Official Information Act I request copies of the 14 Feb 2024 Port Hills fire Incident Actions Plans (IAPs) for the first 6 days (ie 14 Feb - 19 Feb). These plans to include those for the Day and the Night shifts over that period.*

Thank you for your email of 25 June, highlighting the discrepancies and inaccuracies in the IAP's we provided in our earlier response. We appreciate your diligence and detailed feedback, contributions like yours play an important role in our continuous improvement process.

In our email of 25 June, we advised that the IAP's were provided in error and advised of our decision at the time to withhold the IAP's pursuant to section 6(c) of the OIA. This decision was made to avoid any prejudice to ongoing post incident analysis that may result from premature public release of information related to the incident. While the IAP's are a record of a plan and not subject to change, until the post-incident analysis is complete, we cannot be certain of the impacts of prematurely releasing information that may be utilised in the analysis.

We can now advise that the draft IAP's were not utilised as part of the incident response and were not finalised or approved by the Incident Controller. The incident was managed utilising the command tools available in the Christchurch Command unit.

As you note in your email of 25 June 2024, the IAP's we provided are incomplete, unsigned, and lacking significant information compared to a complete and approved IAP. We acknowledge the wording "*incomplete versions of the IAP's*" may have been confusing given that completed versions of the IAP's do not exist. We apologise for any miscommunication and inconvenience that resulted

As noted in our correspondence of 25 June, the IAP's were released in error and are not considered to be complete IAP's. The IAP's were drafted as a precaution should direct suppression of the incident last longer than 48 hours and a larger Incident Management Team be required.

For this reason, we are refusing your request for copies of the finalised IAP's pursuant to section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you require further information, please email [officialinformationrequests@fireandemergency.nz](mailto:officialinformationrequests@fireandemergency.nz)

Nāku noa, nā



Aidan Saunders  
Manager, Information Requests

