



Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management

Te Rākau Whakamarumarū

22 April 2016

Ref: 3310074

N C Wilson

Email: fyi-request-3826-9c9f797f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear NC Wilson

OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST FOR THE NUMBER OF TENTS THAT ARE STORED IN CASE OF A CIVIL EMERGENCY

I refer to your Official Information Act request received on 30 March 2016 which asked *"could you please advise of the number of tents that are stored in NZ in case of a civil emergency, such as a natural disaster, and where the tents are kept."*

I can confirm that the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management (MCDEM) does not hold a stock of tents for use in a civil defence emergency. Accordingly, your request is declined under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act *"that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found."*

It may be helpful if I explain that under the National Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Plan 2015, arrangements for shelter and accommodation (along with other welfare services sub-functions) have been clarified and strengthened. Best practice for sheltering and accommodating people affected by an emergency is in built facilities appropriate to their needs (e.g. hotels, motels, cabins etc). The use of tents as short term shelter may be necessary in some circumstances, but this is not considered best practice for accommodating people overnight or for extended periods.

I also note that in most emergencies, procurement of emergency supplies would be managed at the local level, usually by the CDEM Group in the region, or the local council. If you would like information about the specific CDEM arrangements for emergency shelter and accommodation in your area, you may wish to contact your local CDEM Group to ascertain what plans are in place for emergencies in the region. CDEM Group contact details can be found online at <http://www.civildefence.govt.nz/find-your-civil-defence-group/>.

You are entitled to ask the Ombudsman to review this response under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. You can contact the Ombudsman online via the Ombudsman website, by email (info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143. Further details can be found on the Ombudsman website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely


Sarah Stuart-Black
Director CDEM