



24 June 2016

Ref No: VA 508 15-16

Mr Daniel Ryan  
C/- FYI Website  
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Dear Mr Ryan

Thank you for your email of 16 June 2016 requesting the following information in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982:

- Going back as many years as is practically possible, how much has your organisation spent, for each year, subsidising acupuncture treatment for staff members
- Are there any other "alternative" treatments that your organisation subsidises for employees? If so, how much has been spent per year on each?

Veterans' Affairs is a business unit of the New Zealand Defence Force, and is responsible for providing support and services to veterans. Since Veterans' Affairs became a fully operational branch of the New Zealand Defence Force in 2008, there has been neither acupuncture nor any other type of alternative treatment funded by or subsidised by the New Zealand Defence Force for any employee in their capacity as a staff member of Veterans' Affairs.

Prior to 2008, Veterans' Affairs was a semi-autonomous entity with staff employed by both the New Zealand Defence Force and Work and Income New Zealand. For any information concerning treatment for staff members prior to 2008, you will need to contact Work and Income New Zealand directly.

I trust this satisfies your request for information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jacki Couchman'.

Jacki Couchman  
Head of Veterans' Affairs