



25 January 2017

Our REF: 17/11

C N MacDonald
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Dear Sir/Madam

Official Information Act 1982 request

I refer to your email to Police on the 04 January 2017 for an information request under the Official Information Act 1982. Your request, and the Police response, is set out below

Your request is:

1. The number of helicopter rescues conducted in and around the Kaikoura area following the November 14th earthquake, incl. requested assistance and emergency evacuation.
2. All information relating to the invoices sent to those rescued to pay for helicopter services rendered during the aftermath of the earthquake.

The only search that was requested by the Police was on the 15th November 2016 in response to a reported distress signal sighting coming from the Mt Fyffe area near where there had been a large land slip.

The only access to the area was via helicopter. South Pacific Helicopters were tasked to search the two huts on Mt Fyffe and the area from where the distress signal had originated. All other avenues of enquiry for the search had been completed being checking the carparks, DOC records and speaking with the original informants to ascertain a better location.

No persons were located as a result of the search.

All helicopter movements and their use were co-ordinated by Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management (MCDEM) who were the lead agency for the earthquake response. I suggest that in order to get a better overview of helicopter use during this time you should request this information from MCDEM.

All invoices were co-ordinated through the Kaikoura District Council, police do not have a copy of these invoices.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely

Superintendent Chris Scahill
National Manager : Response and Operations