

Headquarters NZDF Freyberg Building, Private Bag 39997, Wellington 6011, New Zealand T +64 (0)4 496 0999 F +64 (0)4 496 0869 E hqnzdf@nzdf.mil.nz www.nzdf.mil.nz

OIA-2017-2665

10 March 2017

Mr Andy Mackay

Fvi-request-5478-cb4318f5@requests.fvi.org.nz

Dear Mr Mackay

I refer to your email of 1 March 2017 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), copies of all NZDF documentation relating to RNZAF Safety Reporting System Event 2323/16 reported [in] AUG16 and involving an inadvertent 4-year cumulative exposure to toxic chemicals and/or fumes at Whenuapai Airbase.

You also requested details of any advice received from Worksafe NZ in relation to this event, and details of the chemicals involved, including any DASH analysis relating to the scope and severity of exposure.

A further request was for details of the scope of medical tests carried out on personnel, including a list of any specific chemicals tested for, and any non-identifying details of the results.

Lastly, you asked for details on rectification action(s) carried out since AUG16.

Pursuant to section 15A(1)(a) of the OIA, I am advising that a 10 working day extension to the original 31 March time limit for a response to your request is necessary. This is because your request requires that a large volume of information be searched and consideration given to the content of what is located. Meeting the original time limit would unreasonably interfere with the operations of a part of the Defence Force. The new time limit for a reply is 14 April 2017.

You retain the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review the decision to extend your request.

Yours sincerely

C.J.A. HOEY

e Hoen

**Director Coordination** 

Office of the Chief of Defence Force