



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

20 December 2018

Thomas P A Ward  
[fyi-request-9112-519338f8@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-9112-519338f8@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Ward,

**Progress on the New Zealand Humanitarian Overseas Medal**

Thank you for your inquiry dated 23 November 2018 requesting information regarding progress for establishing a New Zealand Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal.

As you know, when the Select Committee reported back, it noted that this was a matter that was on the New Zealand Defence Force work programme. The Prime Minister has overall responsibility for the honours system, and would be responsible for any decision to establish a new medal, and the Honours Unit in the Cabinet Office will work closely with NZDF on any proposals, but NZDF has the lead on the policy work in this area.

We understand you have already had advice from the Minister of Defence, noting that NZDF and the Cabinet Office are working together on this matter, and that the work is in its initial stages.

If you need any further information, we suggest contacting the Medals Policy, Heritage Commemorations and Protocol Group, Headquarters New Zealand Defence Force, Private Bag 3997, Wellington 6011, or email [medals.policy@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:medals.policy@nzdf.mil.nz).

Yours sincerely,

Michael Webster  
**Clerk of the Executive Council**