



National Headquarters
Level 12
80 The Terrace
PO Box 2133
Wellington
New Zealand

Phone +64 4 496 3600

1 May 2019

Alan Thompson
Lower Hutt

By email: fyi-request-9952-fe81ac79@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Alan

Information Request – Pigeon Valley Fire

I refer to your official information request dated 29 March 2019 asking for the Incident Action Plans prepared over the first 10 days of the Pigeon Valley Fire.

Your request has been considered in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 and a decision made to decline your request at this stage. This is because Fire and Emergency intends to undertake an Operational Review of its performance at the Pigeon Valley fires and it is important that this is able to be completed without any prejudice that may be caused by the release of information publicly.

Operational Reviews are an important mechanism for Fire and Emergency to review its performance at significant events and determine how it can improve its management of future events. This process helps to protect the health and safety of members of the public at future events and our personnel need to be able to participate in the operational review without prejudice that could occur as a result of the public release of information while the review is ongoing.

It is critical that the Operational Review be able to form its findings on the basis of recollections that are genuine, first hand and are not influenced or pressured by information from other sources.

Fire and Emergency does not consider that the need to avoid prejudice to the Operational Review process is not outweighed by the public interest at this time. However, due to the size of the fire and the opportunity to learn from the Pigeon Valley fire, Fire and Emergency will consider proactively releasing information following the conclusion of the Operational Review.

Your request is formally declined under sections 9(2)(ba), 9(2)(c) and 9(2)(g)(i) of the Official Information Act.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602. Note also that this response (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Fire and Emergency website.

Yours sincerely



Raewyn Bleakley
Deputy Chief Executive, Office of the Chief Executive