



Headquarters
New Zealand Defence Force
Defence House
Private Bag 39997
Wellington Mail Centre
Lower Hutt 5045
New Zealand

OIA-2026-5812

25th May 2026

Wendy McGuinness
[REDACTED]

Dear Wendy McGuinness

I refer to your email of 20 May 2026 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), *'the material that NZDF provided to the Royal Commission COVID-19 Lessons Learned (as mentioned on p. 16 of the Briefing to the Incoming Minister of Defence 2023.'*

Please refer to the enclosed letter dated 5 April 2023, from the Chief of Defence Force to the Royal Commission of Inquiry. Where indicated, personal information is withheld in accordance with section 9(2)(a) to protect privacy. Also enclosed is a supplementary briefing from the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF), sent to the commission of Inquiry in February 2024.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that responses to official information requests are proactively released where possible. This response to your request will be published shortly on the NZDF website, with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Enclosures:

1. Letter from Chief of Defence force
2. NZDF Lessons Learned