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**MANATŪ KAUPAPA
WAONGA**
NEW ZEALAND
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Dear

RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST FOR OFFICIAL INFORMATION

Thank you for your email of 29 July 2026, in which you requested, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

The number of personal grievances taken against your organisation over the past 10 years, listed by year.

The total amount paid by your organisation in relation to personal grievance settlements in each of the past 10 years, listed by year.

In relation to the number of personal grievances involving Ministry of Defence staff over the past 10 years, between 2017/18 and 2022/23 there were six lodged against the Ministry, one in each of those financial years.

The total amount paid in each year to the individuals is considered to be personal information that would be identifiable to the individuals. As such it is withheld in accordance with section (9)(2)(a) of the Act. I do not believe the public interest in this information outweighs the need to protect it.

The Ministry provides information to select committee about personal grievances as part of the annual Estimates Review of Vote Defence. The Ministry has identified that its responses for those reviews incorrectly indicated that a personal grievance arose in 2023/24. We have advised the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Select Committee of the need to correct this error.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to request the Ombudsman to investigate and review this response.

Yours sincerely

Melissa Thorn
Chief People Officer