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

15 September 2025

RESPONSE TO YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 22 August 2025, in which you requested, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

Please provide the last three months' advice of the Defence Industry Advisory Council to the Minister.

The New Zealand Defence Industry Advisory Council (NZDIAC) is a non-statutory Ministerial advisory board comprising senior defence industry leaders. The purpose of the NZDIAC is to:

- provide the Ministry with national and international defence industry advice,
- encourage a strategic relationship between Defence and industry, and
- act as a conduit between Defence and industry on defence matters.

In addition, the annual Minister of Defence Awards of Excellence to Industry are sponsored by the NZDIAC. Established in 1998, the Awards highlight and reward the contribution made by industry to Defence. As part of this process the NZDIAC seeks nominations from industry and oversees the selection process for the Awards of Excellence. More information regarding the awards can be found at: www.defence.govt.nz/business-and-industry/industry-awards/. From time to time members of the NZDIAC may also provide informal advice to the Minister of Defence, on matters pertaining to the Defence portfolio.

The Ministry of Defence (the Ministry) does not necessarily have visibility of the advice that the NZDIAC provides to the Minister of Defence. The Office of the Minister of Defence have confirmed that they also do not hold any information in scope of your request. Therefore, your request is declined pursuant to section 18(g)(i) of the Act, that the information requested is not held by the department, or the Minister of the Crown, or organisation and that the person dealing with the request has no grounds to believe that the information is held by another department, or Minister of the Crown.

Following the release of the *2025 Defence Capability Plan*, work is currently underway on the development of the Defence Industry Strategy (the Strategy). The Ministry is undertaking engagement directly with NZDIAC on the Strategy but this engagement is separate to the advice NZDIAC provides to the Minister of Defence. As the Defence Industry Strategy will be

released shortly, information relating to it is withheld under section 18(d) on the basis that it will soon be available to the public.

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

Yours sincerely _____

Huntley Wright
Assistant Secretary, Capability Delivery