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11 August 2023

Tēnā koe

Information Request - Addition of the Crown to FENZ Crest

We refer to your official information request dated 19 July 2023 asking for all communications and guidelines about the addition and use of the crown to the Fire and Emergency New Zealand crest, how much the addition of the crown has cost, and any plans to implement it across the organisation.

Your request has been assessed in accordance with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). A crown was never added to the Fire and Emergency crest. Rather, there are three variations on the crest, documented in our visual brand identity. Two of these crests do not use a crown and one does. The one that does is called our 'Formal Royal Badge'.

The Formal Royal Badge crest is not currently approved for use anywhere which means we have no guidelines for its use. Therefore, this aspect of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, because the information does not exist. However, there are plans to implement it on the new Fire and Emergency Long Service Medal, but the crest still needs to be approved and these plans finalised.

This means no cost has been incurred adding the crown to our crest as no crown has been added. Therefore, this aspect of your request is also refused under section 18(e) of the OIA. Please note that even if we had begun to use this crest, the crown would not be separately itemised on invoices costing particular applications of it. Therefore, even if it had been approved and was in use, we could not answer this question.

Regarding the crown you saw on an appliance, without further details about the appliance in question we cannot confirm whether there would have been a crown on the crest. Our fleet team is not aware of any of our appliances using a crest different to the standard crest.

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 <u>www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</u> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa nā

Julia McCook-Weir Manager, Information Requests

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