



National Headquarters
Fire and Emergency New Zealand
National Headquarters
Spark Central, Level 7
42-52 Willis Street
Wellington Central
Wellington 6011

Phone +64 4 496 3600

17 October 2023

Mike Hunua

By email: fyi-request-24186-366b7222@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Mike

Information Request – Specialist Appliance Replacement

Thank you for your information request dated 19 September 2023 asking for information regarding the replacement of specialist appliances.

In accordance with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982, responses to your questions follow.

Is Fire and Emergency planning procurement of new appliances to replace its aging Type 4 Aerial trucks as they reach 20+ years old? What time frame does Fire and Emergency have to replace these and what progress has been made?

Fire and Emergency New Zealand have 18 Type 4 heavy Pump/Aerial appliances distributed around the country, including relief appliances. The appliances have a service life of 25 years and the timeframe for procurement of new Type 4 appliances is based on the end of service life. The oldest Type 4 appliance is 19 years old. Work is underway to define the operational requirements for the replacement Type 4's.

Also, has Fire and Emergency planned for the replacement of its also ageing Hazmat/Command Vehicles, if so will the concept of a mixed-use vehicle (Hazmat/command) be retained and what time frame does Fire and Emergency have to replace these vehicles?

Fire and Emergency does not have current procurement plans for the replacement of Hazmat command vehicles. As above, the timeframe to replace these vehicles is based on the 25-year service life of the vehicles. The oldest Hazmat/command vehicle is the relief vehicle which is 18 years old, and the oldest operational Hazmat/command vehicle is 15 years old. Before we procure

new Hazmat and/or command vehicles we will consult with key stakeholders regarding single vs mixed use appliances, but we have not made any decisions at this stage.

In addition to this with recent extreme weather events and the nation's earthquake risk, does Fire and Emergency have a replacement or expansion program for USAR Response vehicles and Heavy/Technical rescue units such as the one based at Papatoetoe in Auckland?

Fire and Emergency understands that our climate is changing, and these changes pose serious risks to safety, property, and infrastructure. In extreme weather events we need to be able to respond in a way that keeps our people and our communities safe. As an organisation we are continually assessing our capability requirements and planning for the future needs of our communities.

Please note, as USAR is part of Fire and Emergency vehicles can be deployed to assist USAR operations while not being tagged as USAR specific resources. In 2018 we replaced the Southern USAR truck with a bigger vehicle to increase its capability. We have a replacement USAR truck on order with expected delivery in April 2024 for both the Northern USAR and Central USAR teams to replace their current trucks and increase capability.

We have also recently increased our ISV (Incident Support Vehicle) fleet from four to eight with more on order. These are resources that can be deployed with USAR teams to incidents or events to provide a quicker initial response. We do not have an active replacement or expansion program for current Heavy/Technical Rescue appliances.

Fleet Working Party

As a result of the Terms of Settlement for the 2022 Collective Agreement between the NZ Professional Firefighters Union and Fire and Emergency NZ (the Parties) the establishment of various Joint Working Parties was agreed – one of these parties is the Fleet Working Party (FWP). The FWP are developing evidence-based recommendations of the future needs and capability requirements for Fire and Emergency's Red Fleet specifically pertaining to the type and number of fire appliances (Pumps) and specialist appliances. Consideration will also be given to appliance locations and the crewing/staffing of the appliances including the Type 4 Aerial and other specialist fleet requirements.

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.

Nāku noa nā



Julia McCook-Weir
Manager Information Requests

encl