

OIA-2015-2193

| April 2015

D Maclure

fyi-request-2583-67e4d025@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear D Maclure

I refer to your email of 14 March 2015 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information about New Zealand's participation in annual commemorative events at Anzac Cove. In your request, you sought the following:

Any information on NZ participation to ANZAC Cove annually on ANZAC Day regarding who organise an annual event, transport to main venue and record public attendance annually. Also list of past VIP visiting been there annually.

The Anzac Day commemorations at Gallipoli have, since 2002, been jointly organised by the Australian Department of Veterans' Affairs and Veterans' Affairs New Zealand. This occurs in conjunction with the Turkish Government, which provides permission to hold commemorations on the Gallipoli Peninsula. Veterans' Affairs New Zealand's responsibility for organising commemorative events was transferred to the New Zealand Defence Force late last year.

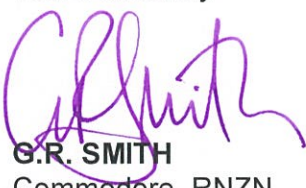
Transport to and from the commemorative sites on the Gallipoli Peninsula is the responsibility of those attending. Most visitors to Gallipoli arrive at the Peninsula by bus as part of a tour group. Those in the official party travel to Turkey via civilian airlines, with group ground transport in Turkey arranged by the New Zealand Embassy.

There are no official attendance numbers for the Anzac Day commemorations at Gallipoli. Crowd numbers are instead estimated based on crowd monitoring on-site. All attendees are given wrist bands as they pass through the main security check point, and the total number of attendees is estimated using these. The first enclosed table provides the estimated number of attendees at Gallipoli commemorations from 2010 to 2014.

This year, the New Zealand official party at the commemorations will include the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, the Minister of Veterans' Affairs, and the Chief of Defence Force. The second table provides a list of members of New Zealand official parties who attended Gallipoli commemorations from 2010 to 2014.

I trust this satisfies your request for information.

Yours sincerely



G.R. SMITH

Commodore, RNZN
Chief of Staff HQNZDF

Year	Estimated number of attendees
2010	7,000
2011	6,500
2012	6,000
2013	5,200
2014	4,400

Table 1: Estimated number of attendees at Gallipoli, 2010-2014

Year	NZ members of official parties
2010	Prime Minister and Chief of Defence Force
2011	Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Chief of Defence Force
2012	Minister of Veterans' Affairs and Vice Chief of Defence Force
2013	Minister of Defence and Chief of Air Force
2014	Governor-General, Minister of Veterans' Affairs and Chief of Army

Table 2: VIPs in attendance at Gallipoli commemorations, 2010-2014