



## Office of Hon Heather Roy

Minister of Consumer Affairs  
Associate Minister of Defence  
Associate Minister of Education

Min-528-2010  
NZDF 1540/1

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*Addressee  
Details Marked  
Confidential*

Dear *Name withheld*

### **AN UPDATE ON THE ISSUE OF THE PROPOSED NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE MEDAL**

Thank you for your e-mail of 11 May to the Hon Dr Wayne Mapp about the proposed New Zealand Defence Medal. As this is a matter that comes within the part of the defence portfolio for which I am responsible, your e-mail was forwarded to me for reply.

Firstly, I note that you plan to attend an ANZAC Day parade at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Kranji Memorial in April next year.

Secondly, final decisions by the government have not yet been made on the criteria for the new medal, although much time has been spent considering them. They are being reviewed so carefully because former and current Service personnel must be absolutely certain that the criteria are both fair and equitable.

The Medallion Recognition Joint Working Group has now submitted its report on the proposed New Zealand Defence Medal, although it has yet to complete the Review of Service in South East Asia (including Singapore).

A media statement will be issued very shortly after final decisions have been made, and information will be released to the *RSA Review*, and the New Zealand Defence Force Medals website: <http://medals.nzdf.mil.nz>.

I expect, however, that the NZDF will call for applications for the New Zealand Defence Medal before the end of this year, and the first medals will be issued as soon as possible after that. Hopefully, this will take place before ANZAC Day 2011.

Yours sincerely

Hon Heather Roy  
**ASSOCIATE MINISTER OF DEFENCE**