

20 August 2019

C110596

John Luke
fyi-request-10807-382d7742@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Luke

Thank you for your email of 25 July 2019, requesting information about Justice of the Peace (JP) visits to Auckland prisons. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You have requested:

I would like to know how many JP has visit the prisons within Auckland region, can you please break down by years and by different prisons, I would like to have the data between 2015-2018.

Unfortunately, prisons do not routinely record this information. We have made inquiries with the Ministry of Justice, who have advised that they also do not hold information regarding JP visits to prison. Therefore, your request is declined under section 18(g) of the OIA, as the information requested is not held by Corrections, and we have no grounds for believing that it is held by another agency or more closely connected with the functions of another agency.

When this information is recorded by prisons, it is not done electronically, but in physical visitor logs. In order to identify this type of specific information, we would be required to manually review a large number of files. In accordance with the OIA, we have considered whether to affix a charge or extend the time limit for responding. However, given the scale of the request, we do not consider that this would be an appropriate use of our publicly funded resources. Therefore, this part of your request is declined under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

As per Section 18B we have considered whether consulting the requestor would assist to make the request in a form that would remove the reason for the refusal. However, we do not consider that the request could be refined in this instance.

I am sorry we cannot be of more assistance. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with Corrections. Alternatively you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Oldfield', written in a cursive style.

Cameron Oldfield
Principal Adviser Ministerial Services
Corporate Services