



19 February 2020

C117926

Elliot Ikilei  
[fyi-request-12061-fdcd4058@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-12061-fdcd4058@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Ikilei

Thank you for your email of 21 January 2020, requesting information about prison lockdowns. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

In accordance with the Corrections Act 2004, we must administer all sentences in a safe, secure, humane and effective manner. All prison facilities are operated in accordance with New Zealand legislation which is based on other agreements, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

In accordance with Corrections legislation, every prisoner is entitled to a minimum of one hour of unlock daily to engage in physical exercise. The minimum is in line with international practice and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules on the Treatment of Prisoners.

Unlock regimes vary between each prison site and between each unit within each prison. Additionally, they are subject to change at short notice in order to meet operational safety and security requirements.

You requested:

*The frequency of Run-restricted occurrences, also known as 'lockdowns', over the previous three years of available records.*

*I would like to request that information for the following prisons:*

- *Rimutaka prison*
- *Spring Hill prison*
- *Auckland South (Wiri) prison*

We have interpreted a "run-restricted occurrence" to mean the number of site-wide lock down. Site-wide lock downs are called for various reasons and are often necessary to ensure that the site can carry out emergency response procedures, therefore ensuring the good order and security of the prison, as well as the safety of the public, staff, and those under our management.

The information that you have requested is not centrally held and is most likely to be recorded in individual incident reports. Therefore, the information does not currently exist in a form that can be readily supplied to you. Accordingly, this part of your request is declined under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

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 'R Powell', written in a cursive style.

Rebecca Powell  
General Manager Public Affairs  
Corporate Services