

27 April 2021

C132538

Alastair Jamieson-Lane
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Tēnā koe Alastair

Thank you for your email of 25 February 2021, requesting information about custodial disciplinary hearings. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested:

1) How many misconduct hearings were conducted within the New Zealand corrections department between January 1st 2020, and the end of December 2020? (If information is more easily collated for some other recent 12 month period, any 12 month time window in the past 3 years will do.)

2) If possible, in how many of these cases did the prisoner contact their legal advisor for the purposes of preparing their defence?

3) In how many of these cases did the prisoner apply to have a legal adviser represent them at the disciplinary or appeal hearing?

4) Of these requests, how many were granted, and subsequently led to representation during the hearing/appeal? How many were declined?

5) Does there exist some form of Timetable/calender determining when Visiting Justices will be available to administer hearings, and if so, how far in advance is such a timetable scheduled? If such policies vary from prison to prison, for the sake of concreteness, what policies apply in Christchurch Men's prison.

(Note: exact lengths of time are not necessary for this question, I am primarily interested in whether the schedule is planned months, weeks, days or hours in advance).

6) In what manner, are the times/dates and locations of hearings communicated to prisoners? When/how are they communicated to a prisoners legal representative?

I am providing you notice that we have decided to release this information to you however, it will take us some more time to prepare the information for release. We will send you the information as soon as possible.

I trust the notice of this decision is of assistance. Should you have concerns with this response, I encourage you to raise them 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.

Ngā mihi

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

Robert Jones
Manager Ministerial Services
People and Capability