

08 December 2021

C143838

Cameron Baxter  
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Tēnā koe Cameron

Thank you for your email of 11 November 2021, to the Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa (Corrections), requesting information about the prison canteen system (P119). Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982.

People in prison are provided meals and essential health, sanitary, and hygiene products. They are also able to purchase goods through the P119 canteen system. The system provides an approved product and price offer standardised across all prison sites. The goods on the P119 list include additional food items, hygiene and sanitary products as well as stationery and other miscellaneous items.

The system delivers an additional benefit by providing opportunities for employment. People in prison are engaged in the operation of the P119 system in our four regional distribution centres. This engagement supports them to acquire skills in warehousing and logistics that may assist them to obtain employment on their release from prison.

The P119 system operates in accordance with the Fair Trading Act 1986 at all times.

You requested:

*Please provide me with the name of all the commercial suppliers to the P119 Canteen system. Please provide the names of these suppliers, broken down by region and year (e.g. In 2019 Foodstuffs and Progressive Enterprises were used in the Northern Region).*

I note that your request did not specify a time range, therefore we are providing information from 2017 onwards.

Since 2017, Corrections has contracted a single commercial supplier across all prison sites, Davis Trading Company Limited (trading as Davis Food Ingredients). Prior to this, each prison site managed their own agreements with individual suppliers. The agreement with Davis Trading Company Limited has:

- Centralised the management of the P119 system into our four distribution centres.

- Standardised the item range and cost of products throughout the prison estate. This was delivered via a single supply contract.
- Increased the focus on making a wider range of healthy foods such as fresh and dried fruits, nuts, and muesli bars more consistently available to people in prison.

I encourage you to raise any concerns about this response 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.

I trust the information provided is of assistance.

Ngā mihi nui

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

Robert Jones  
Manager Ministerial Services  
People and Capability