

18 September 2023

C170828

Aaron Goodwin

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Tēnā koe Aaron

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 15 July 2023 to the Ministry of Justice, requesting the following information:

Please advise how many people released on parole went on to commit homicide within 10 years of being granted parole. Please provide these numbers from between the year 2000 until the date this OIA request was submitted.

As you will be aware, your request was transferred to the Department of Corrections for response.

Since the New Zealand Parole Board was formed in 2002, there have been 27,933 individuals released by the New Zealand Parole Board. Since 2000, there have been 100 people who have been released on parole and convicted of a total of 105 offences of murder within 10 years of their release on parole.

Could you please also include information relating to the number of prior convictions each parolee had before going on to commit homicide while on parole?

Unfortunately, we cannot readily extract the number of prior convictions each person on parole had before being charged with murder as it is not held in any readily retrievable format. To identify this type of specific information, we would be required to manually review a large number of files. As there is 100 people who have been convicted of murder within 10 years of parole, we would need to go through each person's file and count how many prior convictions they have.

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 refused 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 with you would enable the request to be made in a form that would remove the reason for the refusal. However, we do not consider that the request can be refined in this instance.

Please note that this response may be published on Corrections' website. Typically, responses are published quarterly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. 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.

Ngā mihi



Leigh Marsh

National Commissioner