

03 JUN 2015

James Wilson  
[Fyi-request-2712-f9c6c8e5@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:Fyi-request-2712-f9c6c8e5@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Wilson

Thank you for your email of 10 May 2015 to the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) asking for information about veterinarian suicides. MPI has transferred your correspondence to the Ministry of Justice for response as the Ministry has responsibility for the coronial service.

You have asked how many veterinarians or people with degrees in veterinary medicine have committed suicide in New Zealand in the last 30 years.

Coronial databases show 9 suicides in the last 30 years where the occupation of the deceased is recorded as veterinarian or similar. Coronial information does not show the educational qualifications of the deceased so that part of your request is refused in accordance with Section 18(g) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Please note that whilst every effort is made to ensure that all instances of veterinarian suicide have been captured, due to the manner in which information has been recorded by or presented to the Coroner, the data provided should not be taken as representing every such instance.

If you require any clarification of the information contained in this response to your Official Information Act 1982 request, please contact Antony Paltridge, Team Leader, Media and External Relations, at [Antony.Paltridge@justice.govt.nz](mailto:Antony.Paltridge@justice.govt.nz) or call (04) 918 8980 or 027 689 0667.

You have the right, by way of complaint to the Office of the Ombudsmen under section 28(3) of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this decision. The Ombudsmen may be contacted by writing to PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

Yours sincerely



Heather Baggott  
**General Manager, Special Jurisdictions**

Ref: 53141