

20 July 2015

C72274

Mr Dellow fyi-request-2869-8dd89c59@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Dellow

Thank you for your email dated 22 June 2015, requesting *information on whether* there is any provision within the contracts signed between corrections and private prison operators in New Zealand, such as Serco Group, guaranteeing a minimum level of occupancy in prisons run by said private operators, such as Mt. Eden correctional facility. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

The Department needs to extend the timeframe of our response to your request by 20 working days, pursuant to section 15A(1)(b) of the OIA, as consultations necessary to make a decision on the request are such that a proper response to the request cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit. Therefore you can expect to receive a response to your request by 17 August 2015. If you no longer require this information please let us know as soon as possible.

Please be advised that should you have any concerns regarding this extension you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to investigate our decision to extend the timeframe. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely

Charles Post

Manager Ministerial Services (Acting)

**Corporate Services**