



27 July 2015

C72406

Ian Andrews
fyi-request-2887-6441aef3@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Andrews

Thank you for your email dated 29 June 2015, requesting information about training undertaken by Corrections staff in regards to Human Rights as outlined on the Department's website. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Public safety and reducing re-offending are the ultimate goals for the Department of Corrections. In accordance with the Corrections Act 2004, we must make public safety paramount when managing offenders, and administer all sentences in a safe, secure, humane and effective manner. All prison facilities are operated in accordance with New Zealand legislation and based on other agreements, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

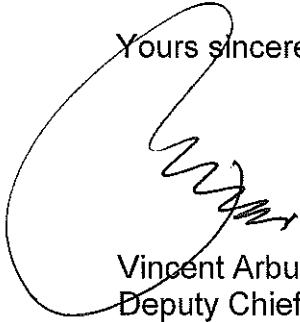
You have asked for "*the means by which Corrections Officers and staff are trained in the provision of the human rights described on the Department's webpage on Human Rights in New Zealand prisons*". I can confirm that Corrections Officers are provided training on Human Rights as part of the Corrections Officers Development Pathway (CODP). As part of the training, recruits are shown a DVD and complete some written work regarding Human Rights. Over the course of training, other material delivered in class often relates back to Human Rights. This includes:

- Corrections Act 2004
- Offender privacy
- Minimum Entitlements
- Visits
- Access to information/support
- Use of Force
- Code of Conduct

Community Corrections staff also cover subjects relating to Human Rights. Topics such as the Corrections Act 2004, offender privacy, and the code of conduct are covered throughout the Probation Officer Curriculum (POC).

I trust the information provided is of assistance. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Department. 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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vincent Arbuckle', is written over a large, light-colored circular scribble or stamp.

Vincent Arbuckle
Deputy Chief Executive
Corporate Services