

18 March 2016

C76455

Emmy Rākete  
FYI Website  
fyi-request-3652-9ed059c3@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Emmy Rākete

Thank you for your email dated 19 February 2016, requesting information about Department staff members and the Auckland Pride Parade 2016. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

- 1. A contingent of uniformed Corrections officers marched in the Auckland Pride parade in February of 2016. Disclose how many people were part of this contingent and break down how many representatives of each branch or unit within the Department of Corrections were present, including ranks and the facilities at which these staff are employed.*

There were eight staff who marched in the Pride Parade.

The Corrections contingent included custodial, health, psychological services and probation staff. Any further detail is withheld under section 9(2)(g)(ii) of the OIA, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of such Ministers, members of organisations, officers, and employees from improper pressure or harassment.

- 2. Out of these individuals, disclose the number who identified themselves as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender.*

The Department does not request, collect or require this information from staff members. Therefore, this part of your request is declined under section 18(g) of the OIA, as the information requested is not held by the Department, and we have no grounds for believing that it is held by another agency or more closely connected with the functions of another agency.

- 3. Disclose the number who identified themselves as allies, and not as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender.*

The Department does not request, collect or require this information from staff members. Therefore, this part of your request is declined under section 18(g) of the OIA, as the information requested is not held by the Department, and we have no grounds for believing that it is held by another agency or more closely connected with the functions of another agency.

4. *Release all internal communications relating to officer involvement in Pride 2016.*

All 'internal communications' are refused under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research. 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.

In addition, the Department is statutorily obligated to protect all private information that we hold. We are unable to release the details you have requested as doing so would contravene our obligations under the OIA and the Privacy Act. Therefore, some information within the scope of your of your request is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons.

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



Vincent Arbuckle  
Deputy Chief Executive  
Corporate Services