



10 June 2016

C77407

dukeofurl
fyi-request-3879-39254634@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear dukeofurl

Thank you for your email of 8 April 2016 addressed to the Minister of Corrections, Hon Judith Collins requesting information relating to Members of Parliament (MP) visits to New Zealand prisons pursuant to section 161 of the Corrections Act 2004.

In an email send to you on 12 April 2016 your request was transferred as the information requested is considered to be more closely connected to the functions of the Department of Corrections. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

In your email you request:

- 1. for the previous nine months, the number of MPs who have visited prisons under section 161*
- 2. for those visits where a copy of the observations (in whatever form) has been made and then forwarded (by email, letter, fax or voice recording) to the Minister (or the Office of the minister, or accessed by any person working in the ministers office) could the name of the MP or MPs if they were together) and the prison visited and the date be supplied*
- 3. could the number of instances be provided when a copy etc of the observations HASN'T been forwarded or accessed by the minister or anyone working in the office of the minister, for MPs visits under Sect 161 for the last 9 months.*

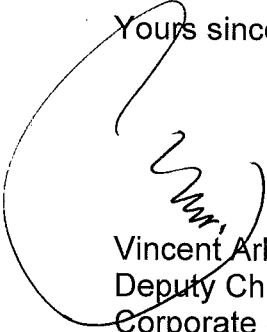
Regarding the first part of your request, please find attached a table in Appendix One that details information regarding MP visits since 2014. Please be aware this is not an exhaustive list as the Department does not record this information centrally, however, we have been able to locate some MP visit details that have been compiled into the attached table. Please be aware this list does not include any visits by the current or former Minister of Corrections.

Regarding the second and third parts of your request, I can advise that no New Zealand MP who exercised their right to visit a prison pursuant to section 161 of

the Corrections Act has informed the Prison Director of his or her observations. Therefore no permanent records of any observations are held at a prison and no observations have been provided to the Office of the Minister of Corrections. These parts of your request are declined under section 18(e) of the OIA as the information requested does not exist or cannot be found.

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



Vincent Arbuckle
Deputy Chief Executive
Corporate Services

Appendix One - MP visits since 2014

Date	Prison	Reason for visit	MP
14 February 2014	Auckland Prison	Prison Tour	Jacinda Adern and Andrew Little
28 February 2014	Wiri Site (ASCF)	Law and Order Select Committee – Prison Tour	Various
28 February 2014	Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility	Law and Order Select Committee – Prison Tour	Various
March 2014	Arohata Prison	Site Visit	Jo Goodhew
10 April 2014	Arohata Prison	Site Visit	Jacinda Adern and Kris Faafoi
17 July 2014	Spring Hill Corrections Facility	Saïi Matagi programme Graduation	Alfred Ngaro
17 July 2014	Whanganui Prison	Law and Order Committee	Jacqui Dean, Ian McKelvie, Joanne Hayes, Chester Borrowes
8 October 2014	Auckland Prison	Visit with prisoner	David Clendon
26 February 2015	Northland Region Corrections Facility	Prison tour	Kelvin Davis
3 April 2015	Hawke's Bay Regional Prison	Prison tour	Kelvin Davis
8 April 2015	Hawke's Bay Regional Prison	Prison tour	Stuart Nash, Kelvin Davis, Phil Goff
13 April 2015	Christchurch Men's Prison	Prison tour and visit with prisoner	Kelvin Davis
17 April 2015	Northland Region Corrections Facility	Prison tour	Kelvin Davis
12 May 2015	Waikeria Prison	Prison tour	Kelvin Davis
22 May 2015	Rimutaka Prison	Whare visit - Rimutaka Prison	Marama Fox
26 June 2015	Rolleston Prison	Construction Yard visit	Amy Adams
July 2015	Manawatu Prison	Prison tour	Ian McKelvie
27 July 2015	Spring Hill Corrections Facility	Saïi Matagi programme	Alfred Ngaro
6 August 2015	Otago Corrections Facility	Law & Order Select Committee - Prison tour	Adrian Rurawhe, Poto Williams, Kelvin Davis
7 August 2015	Auckland Prison	Visit with prisoner	Kelvin Davis

Date	Prison	Reason for visit	MP
7 August 2015	Auckland Prison	Visit with prisoner	Kelvin Davis
7 August 2015	Auckland Prison	Visit with prisoner	Kelvin Davis
12 August 2015	Auckland South Corrections Facility	Law & Order Select Committee - Prison tour	Kelvin Davis
14 August 2015	Rimutaka Prison	DTU Graduation	Chris Bishop
18 September 2015	Auckland South Corrections Facility	Site Visit	Paula Bennett and Steven Joyce
18 September 2015	Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility	Site Visit	Paula Bennett and Steven Joyce
1 October 2015	Auckland Prison	Visit with prisoner	Kelvin Davis
16 October 2015	Whanganui Prison	West Wing opening	Chester Borrowes
21 October 2015	Auckland Prison	With Law and Order Select Committee. Prison tour	Kelvin Davis
21 October 2015	Auckland Prison	Law and Order Select Committee	Various
23 November 2015	Invercargill Prison	Prison tour	Kelvin Davis and Poto Williams
22 February 2016	Spring Hill Corrections Facility	Visit with Prisoner	Mahesh Bindra
18 February 2016	Rimutaka Prison	Visit with Prisoner	Kelvin Davis
23 February 2016	Spring Hill Corrections Facility	Visit With Prisoner	Mahesh Bindra
23 February 2016	Spring Hill Corrections Facility	Visit With Prisoner	Mahesh Bindra
23 February 2016	Spring Hill Corrections Facility	Visit with prisoner	Mahesh Bindra
24 February 2016	Spring Hill Corrections Facility	Construction yard visit	Paula Bennett
25 February 2016	Auckland South Corrections Facility	Prison tour	Mahesh Bindra
9 March 2016	Otago Corrections Facility	Prison tour	Todd Barclay
11 March 2016	Auckland South Corrections Facility	Visit with prisoner	Louisa Wall
24 March 2016	Northland Region Corrections Facility	Visit with prisoner	Kelvin Davis

Date	Prison	Reason for visit	MP
9 May 2016	Mt Eden Corrections Facility	Visit with prisoner	Kelvin Davis
9 May 2016	Auckland Prison	Visit with prisoner	David Clendon
17 May 2016	Otago Corrections Facility	Prison Tour	David Clendon