

15 June 2016 C78182

Alex Harris fyi-request-4076-248bc172@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Harris

Thank you for your email dated 27 May 2016, requesting information about the Department of Corrections' use of social media monitoring tools. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). You asked the following;

"Does your agency use social media monitoring tools or services such as Signal, ZeroFOX or Geofeedia. If so, I'd like to know which tools are used, where they are installed / used from, (broadly) what they are used for, and how much they cost (both to install / purchase, and per year for licencing / subscription / support)".

I can confirm that the Department of Corrections does not use social media monitoring tools such as Signal, ZeroFOX or Geofeedia, as outlined in your initial request. Therefore 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.

Corrections do not allow prisoners to have access to the internet. Nevertheless the Department is aware of some instances where a social media account or blog has been set up on behalf of a prisoner, and these cases are sometimes brought to our attention by a member of the public. Many of these are of no concern to Corrections. However, any illegal activity that appears on these accounts, or is suspected to be occurring as a result of these accounts, is reported to Police as is any material that is considered to threaten the safety of the public or our staff members, or jeopardise the security of a prison site

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