

27 June 2016

C Bremer

By email: fyi-request-4090-ec5eec48@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear C Bremer

**Official information request for information regarding gender neutral
bathrooms**

I refer to your official information request dated June 1 2016 for details regarding the response to gender neutral bathrooms at Victoria University of Wellington. Specifically, you have requested in regards to gender neutral bathrooms:

- 1. Are students generally pro or anti having them present?*
- 2. Have incidences of violence increased or decreased at all?*
- 3. Do gender diverse students report feeling safer and more included?*
- 4. Do binary students feel comfortable having the bathrooms present and/or using them themselves?*
- 5. What were the costs involved?*
- 6. If you currently had no neutral bathrooms, would you strive to provide some given your experiences?*

These questions are difficult to address in terms of an OIA request due to their subjective nature. However, I can advise that Victoria University first instituted gender neutral bathrooms in 2010, and has since strove to provide gender neutral bathrooms in new facilities. Victoria currently has 95 gender neutral bathrooms across all campuses, including unisex and accessible facilities, the locations of which are available on the attached table.

Victoria University has no reports of gender-based violence in relation to bathrooms on campus, and any such reports would be taken very seriously by the University as a criminal matter and breach of the Student Conduct Statute.

No substantive costs were involved in the specific provision of gender neutral bathrooms, as the costs involved are related to signage, rather than the construction of the bathrooms themselves.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Allison Kirkman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Associate Professor Allison Kirkman
Vice-Provost (Academic and Equity)