

30 August 2016

C79676

Ty Cochran
fyi-request-4443-a87b43e0@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Cochran

Thank you for your email dated 14 August 2016, requesting information about the placement of a community based offender in Maungaraki. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Corrections' primary priority when managing offenders is the safety of the public. Prisoners are released into the community on a regular basis when their custodial sentences are completed.

Corrections does not decide who is in prison and who is in the community. This is a matter for the Courts and Parole Board. Where an offender is legally required to live in the community, Corrections has the responsibility to reintegrate and rehabilitate the offender into the community safely.

The Department contracts service providers to assist with the management of high risk offenders who require one-to-one supervision. All addresses have been verified by Community Corrections. No offender would be placed at an address if it was considered that their risk could not be safely managed.

You have asked a number of questions regarding the residence where the offender was placed. These have been addressed below

- 1. What type of accommodation is the offender residing in?*
- 2. What size is the property he is living in - e.g. number of bedrooms and floor area?*
- 3. How many people reside in the property with him?*
- 4. Would the property be described as high/middle/low end in terms of the rental market?*
- 5. How much is the rent for the property?*
- 6. Who is paying the rent?*

7. *If he is paying the rent, is a rent subsidy applied?*

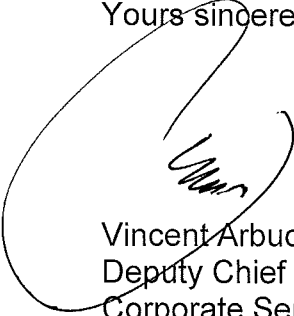
8. *How long is his tenancy (or whatever the terms of his stay there are)?*

As the house is a private residence, the tenancy agreement is between the service provider and the landlord. Corrections are not party to this agreement. Therefore this part of your request is declined in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

You should further note that this offender has now been relocated until such time as a further suitable residence can be identified in the Wellington region. The offender will continue to be managed by Corrections under the same stringent conditions.

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