



25 January 2018

C92076

Elisha Lane
fyi-request-7078-f6120b8e@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Lane

Thank you for your email of 3 January 2018 requesting information about Northland Region Corrections Facility (NRCF). Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Please find below answers to your information requests.

1. *Is it true that Ngawha Prison is to become a segregation only prison?*

No. I am advised that NRCF has no intention of becoming a segregation only prison at this time.

2. *If so will Paremoremo Prison be the closest prison to northland for mainstream inmates?*

As above, mainstream prisoners will remain at NRCF at this time.

3. *How many mainstream units remain at Ngawha Prison?*

Five. Weka Unit, Kea Unit, Kaahu Unit (Multi Cluster unit), Internal Self Care and External Self Care.

4. *How many mainstream inmates remain at Ngawha Prison?*

The prison population in general constantly changes. The volume of mainstream prisoners versus voluntary segregation prisoners will change on a daily basis. At present, mainstream prisoners make up approximately one third of the total population at NRCF. Prison population statistics are publicly available on our website at:

http://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/research_and_statistics/quarterly_prison_statistics/prison_stats_september_2017.html

5. *Is it possible for a mainstream inmate from another NZ Prison Facility to be relocated to Ngawha Prison?*

Yes. The process and criteria for inter-prison transfers can be found on our website at the link below:

http://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/policy_and_legislation/Prison-Operations-Manual/Movement/M.04-External-movement-transportation-of-prisoners/M.04-3.html

6. *Would transferring to Ngawha Prison for the purpose of being closer to family support help eligibility for a mainstream inmate?*

A prisoner may be transferred from one prison to another to be in or closer to their home region. Corrections recognises the important, positive effect that regular family contact and support has on prisoner morale. Accordingly, we try to keep prisoners in the areas where their families reside and where that is not possible, every effort is made to return prisoners to their home region prior to their release.

7. *How many visits a week are mainstream inmates entitled to at Ngawha Prison?*

All people in prison are entitled to at least one visit each week for a minimum duration of 30 minutes. Each prison determines how many visits a prisoner can have and also how many visitors at each visit. Mainstream prisoners at NRCF have six visit sessions per week.

8. *Does Ngawha Prison have self-care units/residence?*

As you may be aware, the majority of self-care units house up to 20 prisoners who are in some form of full-time work (under our release to work programme). Self-care accommodation, mainly situated outside of a prison's secure perimeter, provide prisoners with a degree of autonomy. The open, shared accommodation teaches people the necessary living skills required for a successful reintegration into society.

NRCF has both internal and external self-care units.

9. *What are Ngawha Prisons mainstream inmates that are 8 years out from parole entitled to, as for, self-care, work programs, courses etc.?*

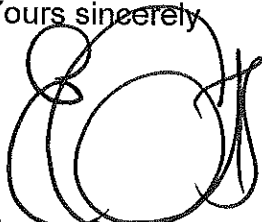
Access to rehabilitative programmes, employment, educational courses and self-care is dependent on a number of factors, including the prisoners offending, security classification and behaviour while in custody.

On arrival in prison, Corrections provides a case management process for all offenders which encompass the planning and management of a prisoner's rehabilitation and reintegration needs, and are detailed in an individual offender plan.

Case managers work with prisoners from the moment they come into prison to make sure they receive the treatments and programmes they need at the right level, at the right time. They regularly meet with the prisoner on their case load and work with them to develop plans which will reduce their likelihood of re-offending when they are released from prison. Case managers organise and schedule their attendance at programmes, employment training or education courses. They also work closely with other Corrections staff and with external service providers and partners such as the New Zealand Parole Board. They keep a case file on the prisoners they work with and write reports and recommendations, similar to probation officers.

I hope this information is helpful. 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Emma Coats', written over a large, faint circular watermark or stamp.

Emma Coats
Manager Ministerial Services
Corporate Services