

6 July 2018

C97228

Heather Holdaway fyi-requests-7983-36d57230@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Holdaway

Thank you for your email of 13 June 2018 initially sent to the Ministry of Justice, regarding the tendering process for the expansion of Waikeria Prison. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You asked the following questions:

I am writing to request the private partner within the Private Public Partnership utilized to carry out proposed expansion of Waikeria Prison. As per the time-frame supplied by Corrections, we are now in the third stage in which a Preferred Bidder is selected, with an expectation to have a signed contract mid-way through 2018.

I would like to request any and all additional information regarding the progress of this process and any involved parties as possible under the OIA.

Additionally, I would like to request the release of a list of short-listed respondents who received a Request For Proposal.

Corrections is committed to reducing the prison population by 30 percent in the next 15 years. The rebuild of Waikeria Prison will allow us to invest in a safe, secure and fit for purpose facility that will further strengthen our obligations towards comprehensive and tailored rehabilitation and reintegration. This includes increased support of prisoners who present with mental health concerns through the building of a rehabilitative 100-bed mental health unit within the current site at Waikeria.

Corrections placed a notice for Expressions of Interests for the expansion of Waikeria Prison via the Government Electronic Tendering Service (GETS) in January 2017, in line with standard procedures for the procurement of services across the public sector.

Regarding your first question, I can advise that Corrections has not yet entered into a contract regarding the expansion of Waikeria Prison. After evaluating its proposal, we have appointed Cornerstone Infrastructure Partners as Preferred Bidder. Following commercial negotiations, we expect to formally sign a contract with Cornerstone Infrastructure Partners by the end of 2018.

In response to your second question, we are unable to provide you with any material regarding the current tendering process as details of the contract with Cornerstone Infrastructure Partners are commercially sensitive. Therefore, this part of your request is withheld under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA, to protect information that would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

Once the contract has been signed, you are welcome to submit a fresh request for information to Corrections, which will be given due consideration under the OIA.

The two respondents who received Requests for Proposals were Cornerstone Infrastructure Partners and safeWAIKERIA.

I hope this information is helpful. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with Corrections. 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

Emma Coats
Principal Adviser Ministerial Services

Corporate Services