



5 December 2018

C102551

Jessica Lim
fyi-request-9109-1b40051d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Lim

Thank you for your email of 23 November 2018, requesting information about access to prisoner information by Corrections staff. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Corrections expects a high standard of conduct from all of our staff. Our employees work hard to reduce reoffending and ensure public safety. We expect staff to act with utmost integrity at all times, and to use technology constructively, for work-related purposes.

As you may be aware, Corrections utilises software called the Integrated Offender Management System (IOMS) to record offender information. IOMS stores relevant information including personal details, offender notes, criminal history, sentencing details, and reporting and compliance information.

It is imperative that staff use our IT systems appropriately in the course of their duties. Offender details (including medical information) may only be viewed by staff with the appropriate authority to do so. All Corrections staff are subject both the employee Code of Conduct and to the IT Acceptable Use Policy. Any misuse of our IT systems is taken seriously by Corrections.

You have asked:

- 1) *Do prison guard have access to, or are they encouraged to access prison inmates' files?*
- 2) *If so, in what circumstances are different staff allowed to access different types of files?*

Corrections staff with applicable roles are able to access prisoner information on an as-needed basis, when it is required to carry out their duties. As mentioned above, access to prisoner information is guided by the employee Code of Conduct and the IT Acceptable Use Policy, and a record is created when staff have accessed or updated offender information.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gillon Carruthers
General Manager Public Affairs
Corporate Services