

24 November 2022

C158781

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 28 September 2022 to the Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa, requesting information regarding Living Wage rates of pay for cleaners and security staff contracted by Corrections. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested:

Who are the cleaning and security contract providers currently delivering these services? (please list these by property address and lease area)
What are the expiration dates for each of the contracts?
Are the contractors required to pay the staff employed to perform the contracted work at least the Living Wage?

Appendix One contains contract information for the current cleaning and security providers contracted by Corrections.

The property address and space of Community Corrections sites, regional offices and Corrections' National Office are provided in Corrections' responses to estimates questions, which are publicly available on pages one and two at the following link:

https://www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/53SCJU_EVI_123916_JU230427/076472bc75eb6f1127a6cfe638b8f2ae619334ff

Corrections does not contract cleaning or security providers to operate onsite at prisons. Security services for prisons listed in Appendix One will visit prisons only for the purpose of collecting or escorting people in prison.

Which of the contracts do not have a rate that is equivalent to the Living Wage rate as a minimum pay requirement?
What instruction or advice, if any, has been given to contractors whose contracts extend beyond September 1, about implementing the NZ Living Wage rate on September 1 2023

These questions are not applicable for any of contracts listed above, as they all pay the equivalent to the Living Wage or more. This part of your request is therefore refused under 18(e) of the OIA, as the information requested does not exist.

And generally, if catering and/or kitchen staff are directly or indirectly employed by your agency, does the minimum rate of a Living Wage rate apply to them also?

Corrections employs Catering Instructors whose principal role is to provide developmental training to people in prison within a commercial environment, to improve their work habits, work experience, and skills. Catering Instructors have a pay band of \$62,014 to \$77,341, which is above the Living Wage threshold.

Please note that this response may be published on Corrections' website. Typically, responses are published quarterly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. I encourage you to raise any concerns about this response 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.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alastair Turrell', written in a cursive style.

Alastair Turrell
Deputy Chief Executive, Infrastructure and Digital Assets

Appendix One: contract information for the current cleaning and security providers used by Corrections.

Contract Type	Supplier	Description	Location of Services	Rate	Valid To
Cleaning	OCS Limited	Scheduled cleaning services	Nationwide at Community Corrections sites, Regional Offices and Corrections' National Office	Hourly rate is equal to or greater than the Living Wage	31/05/2023
Security	Allied Security	Static guard services	Tai Aroha, 116/118 Peachgrove Road, Hamilton	Hourly rate is greater than the Living Wage	17/05/2023
Security	Armourguard Security	Cash transfer services, secure collection and transportation of cash to the bank	Northland Region Corrections Facility Auckland Prison Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility Mount Eden Corrections Facility Spring Hill Corrections Facility Waikeria Prison Tongariro Prison Whanganui Prison Hawke's Bay Regional Prison Manawatu Prison Rimutaka Prison Arohata Prison Christchurch Men's Prison (including services for Christchurch Women's Prison and Rolleston Prison) Otago Corrections Facility Invercargill Prison	All collection fees are greater than the Living Wage	30/09/2024
Security	Armourguard Security	Ad-hoc security guard services	Te Korowai, Lower North Region, as required	Hourly rate is greater than the Living Wage	30/11/2023
Security	First Contact Limited	Security guard services	National Office	Hourly rate is greater than the Living Wage	10/01/2025

Appendix One: contract information for the current cleaning and security providers used by Corrections.

Security	First Security Guard Services Ltd	Prisoner escort and courtroom custodial service	District Courts, Prisons, Mental Health Facilities in the Auckland and Northern Regions ¹	Hourly rate is equal to or greater than the Living Wage	30/09/2023
Security	First Security Guard Services Ltd	Electronic Monitoring Interim Field Services	Nationwide, as required	Hourly rate is equal to or greater than the Living Wage	16/02/2023

¹ Corrections carries out its own escort and courtroom custodial services across the other regions.