DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
ARA POUTAMA AOTEAROA

27 July 2026 *C216288*

[redacted]

Tēnā koe [redacted]

Thank you for your email of 17 June 2026 to the Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa, requesting information about non-disclosure agreements (NDA) and confidentiality agreements. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Corrections does not use NDAs. Committees, boards and working groups may operate under an expressed undertaking of confidentiality. In addition, Corrections staff are expected to act at all times with professionalism and integrity in their management of information associated with our workplaces, including personal information about those in our care; this is shown in staff employment agreements and is re-enforced by our Code of Conduct.

You requested:

Since 23 November 2023:

1. *How many working groups, advisory groups, reference groups, expert panels, stakeholder groups, or similar bodies administered by your agency have required participants to sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA), confidentiality agreement, or confidentiality undertaking as a condition of participation?*
2. *Please provide the figure for each of:*
    - *23 November 2023 to 31 December 2023*
    - *2024*
    - *2025*
    - *2026 to date*

We have interpreted your request to refer to any board or committee within Corrections which is remunerated in line with the Cabinet Fees Framework. Within the timeframe of your request, this includes the following boards and committees:

- Pathways and Services Governance Group
- Muslim Community Reference Group
- Disability and Older Persons Advisory Group
- Community Impact Forum
- Social Impact Fund Allocation Committee
- Tangata Whenua Committee

- Te Whanau Apanui Advisory Board
- Northland Iwi/Hapū Advisory Group
- Wellness and Wellbeing Advisory Board
- Te Poari Rautaki Māori Board
- People Portfolio Governance Committee
- Audit & Risk Committee
- Ara Poutama Aotearoa Oversight Bodies Advisory Board.

None of these require participants to sign a separate NDA or confidentiality agreement, however, some require their members to operate under an undertaking of confidentiality established under their Terms of Reference or Terms of Engagement. These groups, and the date the undertaking applied, are shown in the table below.

Committees and groups utilising an undertaking of confidentiality and when it applied				
	23/11/2023 - 31/12/2023	**2024**	**2025**	**01/01/2026 - 17/06/2026**
Muslim Community Reference Group	1	1	1	1
Disability and Older Persons Advisory Group	N/A*	1	1	1
Community Impact Forum	1	1	1	1
Social Impact Fund Allocation Committee	1	1	1	1
Tangata Whenua Committee	1	1	1	1
Northland Iwi/Hapū Advisory Group	N/A*	1	1	1
Wellness and Wellbeing Insights and Advisory Group	1	1	1	1
Total	**5**	**7**	**7**	**7**

*Group was not yet established

> *Please provide any current policy, guidance, or criteria governing when such agreements may be required.*

Corrections has no policy, guidance or criteria describing when non-disclosure and confidentiality agreements may be required, therefore this part of your information request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or cannot be found.

As per section 18B of the OIA, we have considered whether consulting with you would enable any part of your request to be made in a form that would remove the reason for the refusal. However, we do not consider that the request can be refined in this instance.

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 hope this information is helpful. I encourage you to raise any concerns about this response with Corrections. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Ngā mihi



Alice Sciascia
Deputy Chief Executive
Strategy & Corporate Services