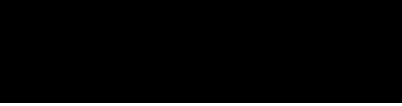


15 February 2023

C164123



Tēnā koe

Thank you for your request made verbally to Rangiora Community Corrections on 18 January 2023, regarding Corrections' staff convictions. Your request has been transferred to the Ministerial Services team for response. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested:

In the last 5 years, how many Corrections' staff have been convicted of crimes, if so what crimes were they convicted of?

Corrections employs around 10,000 staff in prisons and the community. The overwhelming majority of our people act with integrity, honesty, and professionalism. Our clear expectation is that staff demonstrate positive law-abiding behaviour. All staff are required to abide by Corrections' Code of Conduct which is available [here](#). The Code of Conduct makes it clear that Corrections' staff must comply with the law at all times and that unlawful behaviour, including admitting or being convicted of an offence, falls below Corrections' expectations.

Corrections has robust vetting processes in place relating to the recruitment process. All individuals who are employed by Corrections are required to undertake pre-employment checks that include, but may not be limited to, a criminal conviction check and drug test. Additionally, staff are routinely reminded of the requirement to declare any conflicts of interests, which includes notifying their manager of any criminal charge laid against them under any law, statute, or regulation. A breach of Corrections' Code of Conduct may lead to disciplinary action, including dismissal.

Corrections recognises that it is possible that an individual may not declare this type of information, despite the requirement to. Corrections' Integrity Assurance Team (IAT) is responsible for investigating allegations of staff misconduct. While IAT keeps records on all inquiries and investigations they undertake, they do not have a specific reporting function that allows the information requested to be easily extracted. The inquiries and investigation records are each held separately, and we consider that a review of all inquiries and investigations would amount to substantial collation and research.

Should this information exist, we consider it may be held against individual employment files. However, searching individual employment records of staff employed over the past five years would require thousands of individual files to be assessed. Your request is, therefore, refused in accordance with section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information cannot be provided without substantial collation and research. In accordance with section 18B of the OIA, we have considered whether to affixing a charge or consulting you would remove the reason for refusal, however, we consider given the scope of your request, this would not be possible.

Anyone who has concerns relating to the conduct of staff or our operations can contact our confidential integrity phone line on 0800 267 000 or email integrity@corrections.govt.nz. All allegations will be taken seriously and investigated.

When we receive any information suggesting staff are not meeting our standards, we investigate and take the necessary action, including referring information to the Police if appropriate.

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 be 'A. M.', written in a cursive style.

Manager Ministerial Services (Acting)
People and Capability