



Cabinet Legislation Committee

Minute of Decision

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Government Response to the Report of the Justice Committee on the Office of the Ombudsman, OPCAT Reports

Portfolio Corrections

On 22 August 2024, the Cabinet Legislation Committee:

- 1 **noted** that, on 30 May 2024, the Justice Committee presented its report to the House entitled “Office of the Ombudsman, OPCAT Reports”;
- 2 **noted** that the select committee recommended that “the Government enquire into the compliance with minimum legal standards of prison facilities”;
- 3 **noted** the Minister of Corrections’ submission and in particular his advice that:
 - 3.1 currently, prisoners are offered at least one hour out of their cell each day and all prisons have resumed face-to-face visits in some capacity;
 - 3.2 prisoners may be denied minimum entitlements in accordance with section 69(2) of the Corrections Act 2004;
 - 3.3 work is being initiated to understand and develop a possible digital solution, to allow the monitoring of minimum entitlements, while minimising administrative burden on front-line staff;
- 4 **approved** the Government Response, attached to the paper under LEG-24-SUB-0160, to the Report of the Justice Committee entitled “Office of the Ombudsman, OPCAT Reports”;
- 5 **noted** that the Government Response must be presented to the House by 26 August 2024;
- 6 **invited** the Minister of Corrections to present the Government Response to the House in accordance with Standing Order 256.

Tom Kelly
Committee Secretary

Attendance: (See over)

Present:

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Chris Bishop (Chair)
Hon Dr Shane Reti
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Judith Collins KC
Hon Mark Mitchell
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Tama Potaka
Hon Casey Costello
Hon Nicole McKee
Hon Simon Watts
Hon Andrew Bayly
Hon Scott Simpson, MP
Jamie Arbuckle, MP

Officials present from:

Officials Committee for LEG
Prime Minister's Office