

23 March 2023

C164837

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 7 February 2023 to the Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa, requesting information about Corrections’ carbon travel limits. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Corrections is committed to the Carbon Neutral Government Programme that seeks to deliver a carbon neutral public sector by 2025. We acknowledge our responsibility for the protection and sustainability of our natural resources, and by managing our carbon footprint and improving energy efficiency, our goal is to minimise the impact of our operations on the environment. Corrections has approved gross emission reduction targets of 21 percent by 2025 and 42 percent by 2030. This is in line with recommendations made by the Ministry for the Environment in accordance with the Science Based Targets Initiative.

You requested:

*Please detail each annual carbon travel limit Ara Poutama Aotearoa Department of Corrections (Corrections) has, including those for full-time staff, part-time staff, casual staff, contractors and consultants.*

*In the past 12 months (1 February 2022 to 1 February 2023), how many of the Corrections carbon travel limits were reached, if any?*

*If any carbon travel limits were reached, when were they reached (e.g. August 31, 2022, 4 months before the annual period ended)?*

*If any carbon travel limits were reached, how much travel is recorded after the day they were reached within the annual period (e.g. 54 kilometres of travel were recorded over the annual limit)?*

*What changes are implemented if a carbon travel limit is reached?*

*When were carbon travel limits introduced for Corrections?*

*How many years, since carbon travel limits were introduced, has Corrections recorded travel in excess of the annual limit?*

Corrections does not currently utilise carbon travel limits. As such, your request is declined under section 18(g) of the OIA, as the information requested is not held by Corrections, and we have no grounds for believing that it is held by another agency or more closely connected with the functions of another agency.

Corrections utilises a Corporate Travel Policy that is in the process of being updated. The policy recognises carbon emissions as one of its seven key principles

Due to the nature of Corrections' work, there is often a need to travel to ensure health, safety and security is prioritised and managed effectively, and to ensure Corrections meets the needs and expectations of the judiciary, New Zealand Parole Board, and people under Corrections' management.

Corrections reports externally verified carbon emissions in our Annual Report as required by the Carbon Neutral Government Programme. Corrections' 2021/22 Annual Report is available here:

[https://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/strategic\\_reports/annual-reports](https://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/strategic_reports/annual-reports)

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



Matt Huddleston  
Manager, Ministerial Services  
People and Capability