

23 February 2023

C164344



Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your email of 25 January 2023 to the Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa, requesting information about advice provided to the Minister of Corrections. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested:

All written advice that the Department of Corrections has provided to the Minister of Corrections in the past 12 months regarding the Government’s goal of reducing the prison population by 30 percent over 15 years.

We have not identified any advice that Corrections has provided to the Minister of Corrections in the 12 months from 26 January 2022 to 25 January 2023 on the specific topic of “reducing the prison population by 30 percent over 15 years”.

Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(g) of the OIA, because the information requested is not held by Corrections, and we have no grounds for believing that the information is either held by another agency, or connected more closely with the functions of another agency.

It is worth noting that while no advice has been provided as above, Corrections has provided advice on many factors that may contribute to a safe reduction in the prison population. These factors include proposed legislative amendments to improve rehabilitation and reintegration outcomes, Corrections’ Hōkai Rangi strategy, and the Māori Pathways programme.

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 'MH' followed by a horizontal line.

Matt Huddleston
Manager Ministerial Services
People and Capability