

06 October 2020

C126486

Sarah Fort  
[fyi-request-13754-f9fa9558@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-13754-f9fa9558@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Ms Fort

Thank you for your email of 10 September 2020, requesting information about the location of Ashley Winter. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

New Zealand law, consistent with international instruments such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, requires male and female people to be detained in separate prisons or in separate units within a prison. This is necessary for the safety and welfare of people in prison, and for the security and good order of prisons. While placement in a men's or women's prison is a straightforward matter for most people, for a very small group, it can be more challenging.

At any one time there may be around 30 to 50 people in our prisons identifying as transgender. This accounts for a small percentage of the current total prison population of around 10,000 prisoners.

Corrections' policy regarding the management of transgender people is publicly available at: [www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/policy\\_and\\_legislation/Prison-Operations-Manual/Induction/I.10-Management-of-transgender-prisoners](http://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/policy_and_legislation/Prison-Operations-Manual/Induction/I.10-Management-of-transgender-prisoners)

The placement of transgender and intersex people in a men's or women's prison, including the process for a review of initial determination of placement, is managed in accordance with Prison Operations Manual M.03.05 policy. This is publicly available at: [www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/policy\\_and\\_legislation/Prison-Operations-Manual/Movement/M.03-Specified-gender-and-age-movements/M.03.05-Transgender-prisoner](http://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/policy_and_legislation/Prison-Operations-Manual/Movement/M.03-Specified-gender-and-age-movements/M.03.05-Transgender-prisoner)

While Corrections has obligations under Section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect all personal information we hold, including information about offenders, I have determined that under section 9(1) of the OIA, that public interest in the information you have requested outweighs privacy concerns. I can confirm that Ashley Winter is housed in a men's prison.

I trust this information is useful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert Jones  
Manager Ministerial Services  
People and Capability