



OIA20-0427

R Y Ong
fyi-request-13461-17763fb4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear R Y Ong

Thank you for your email of 5 August 2020 requesting information relating to animal welfare inspectors. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

- *May I please know how many Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) inspectors there are for enforcing and monitoring the welfare of farm animals in New Zealand?*

MPI currently employs 27 full time dedicated Animal Welfare Inspectors across New Zealand whose sole job is to investigate animal welfare issues. There are 19 additional staff members within the Compliance Investigations team who also hold Animal Welfare warrants. These warrants enable the holders to investigate under the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

Furthermore, MPI Verification Services employs 200 veterinarians who hold Animal Welfare Warrants, for the detection of animal welfare issues associated with inbound animals at meat processing facilities.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Ministry for Primary Industries at Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz. 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 or at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Orr'.

Gary Orr
Director Compliance Services