

12 May 2014

C66197

Ian Andrews  
[fyi-request-1588-cd5f31ff@requests.fyi.orgn.nz](mailto:fyi-request-1588-cd5f31ff@requests.fyi.orgn.nz)

Dear Mr Andrews

Thank you for your email of 2 April 2014, in which you have requested an explanation as to why a page on our website about Auckland Prison is no longer available, and queried whether the page was removed to hide information from the United Nations Inspectors. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

The Department administers all sentences in a safe, secure, humane and effective manner. All prison facilities are operated in accordance with New Zealand legislation and based on other agreements, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. Under international law, the United Nations working groups must have unrestricted access to places of detention and relevant information. Please let me assure you that we are committed to co-operating fully with the United Nations working groups.

The link to the Auckland Prison webpage is no longer active as the Department launched a new and improved public website last year. The intention of the upgrade was to produce a dynamic homepage that is useful and relevant to our main audiences, which clearly reflect the nature of our work and key priorities. Some information on the page relating to Auckland Prison, including general content about reducing re-offending, improved rehabilitation and training and employment, was moved into another all-purpose location titled '*Working with Offenders*'. However, the information about prisoner capacity is the same on both the old and new site, and this did not include a breakdown by security classification. A copy of the old Auckland Prison page is enclosed for your information. The current page is available via the link below:


[http://www.corrections.govt.nz/about\\_us/contact\\_us/our\\_locations/auckland\\_prison.html](http://www.corrections.govt.nz/about_us/contact_us/our_locations/auckland_prison.html)

Please note that we do not withhold information about the number of prisoners who are classified as maximum security, and these details are able to be requested by any member of the New Zealand public under the OIA. I can advise that the Department was managing 88 prisoners classified as maximum security as at 20 April 2014. Information about prisoner security classification is also available on the *Fact and Statistics* page of our new website via the link below:

[http://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/facts\\_and\\_statistics.html](http://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/facts_and_statistics.html)

I trust my response has clarified this matter for you. As you may be aware, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review this response. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Vincent Arbuckle  
General Manager  
Corporate Services