



27 April 2016

C76666

Sam Vella  
[fyi-request-3704-89d877bc@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-3704-89d877bc@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Sam

Thank you for your email dated 2 March 2016, requesting information about the construction and expansion of prisons. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You have asked five questions relating to plans for the construction and expansion of prisons. These have been addressed below.

1. *What are the current building projects of the Department of Corrections, including public/private partnerships?*
2. *Where are new facilities being built, extended, and refurbished?*
3. *How many people will each of the new projects house?*
4. *Will any new facilities be built to accommodate double-bunking?*

Information outlining the details of current construction work on prison sites as at 2 March 2016 is attached as Appendix One.

Please note that no new accommodation is being created as a result of these projects. The Auckland East (PPP) will accommodate 260 prisoners, which will replace the existing facilities.

Also, none of the current projects are being built to accommodate double bunking.

5. *Please provide any and all construction plans for the above projects.*

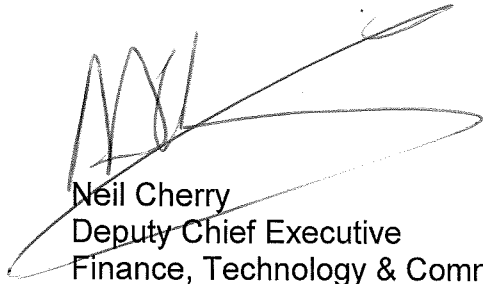
Construction plans for these projects are commercially sensitive. Therefore, this part of your request is withheld under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA, to protect information that would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

We are also unable to release information about the construction of prisons into the public domain as doing so could compromise the safety of individuals or the security of prisons. Therefore, the requested information is also declined under section 6(c) of the OIA, as the making available of that information would be

likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial.

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 Department. 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.

Yours sincerely



Neil Cherry  
Deputy Chief Executive  
Finance, Technology & Commercial

## Appendix One – Prison Construction Projects

| Building Project (Noting if PPP)  | Build/extension/refurbishment   |
|---|---|
| Whanganui Prison  | Yards being separated into more yards   |
| Invercargill Prison   | Refurbishment of west wing to: seismic strengthen, include a new dedicated collection unit, refurbish the kitchen and undertake passive fire protection                     |
| Tongariro Prison  | Dentist room within the existing transit station building   |
| Auckland East (PPP)   | New Build   |
| Northland Region Corrections Facility Enhancements                              | Security enhancements to cell units   |
| Northland Region Corrections Facility Gatehouse Refurbishment                   | Reconfiguration of gatehouse layout to enhance security and pedestrian flow   |
| Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility Enhancements and Audio Visual Link | Security enhancement to cell blocks with construction of new programmes building and new industries/painting workshop, with security enhancements to the visitors reception |
| Otago Corrections Facility Enhancements Project                                 | Security enhancements to cell blocks  |
| Spring Hill Corrections Facility Enhancements                                   | Security enhancements to cell blocks  |
| Spring Hill Corrections Facility Audio Visual Link                              | Construction of new eight booth AVL building  |