

25 October 2019

C113520

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Tēnā koe Mr Luke

Thank you for your email of 27 September 2019, requesting information about the Corrections' Patron Programme under the Official Information Act 1982.

Corrections' Patron Programme supports our newest recruits on the Corrections Officer Development Pathway.

The Corrections Officer Development Pathway is the initial learning pathway to ensure our Corrections Officers are prepared and supported to do their jobs safely and securely.

Corrections Officers work with some of New Zealand's most challenging people. The pathway ensures our staff understand how they can support people to make changes in their lives for the better and how to carry out the fundamental tasks of a Corrections Officer.

The Patron programme provides new recruits with a mentor who has a key community perspective on the important role of Corrections Officers. Patrons are able to share their core values including the importance of integrity, team work and leadership. The Patron has three sessions with their cohort, which includes attending their graduation ceremony.

You have requested:

1. *How many corrections wing patron we have now and who they are*

Corrections have had three Patrons since the programme commenced.

The first Patron was Sir Graham Lowe, who developed the 'Kick for the Seagulls' programme. 'Kick for the Seagulls' educates prisoners through sports language to teach subjects like maths, reading and writing. As well as promoting physical activity, it uses non-traditional teaching strategies to engage learners in project-based learning with embedded literacy and numeracy. It also has a cultural element and celebrates success while challenging poor behaviour. You can read more about this programme on our website at [www.corrections.govt.nz/news/latest\\_news/kicking\\_off\\_kick\\_for\\_the\\_seagulls\\_programme](http://www.corrections.govt.nz/news/latest_news/kicking_off_kick_for_the_seagulls_programme).

Our second Patron was Martin Bosley, who has also been a part of Rimutaka Prison's 'Gate to Plate' event for a number of years. The initiative, which is now in its seventh year, is designed to provide prisoners with the opportunity to gain industry catering qualifications which will help them make positive changes in their lives and find sustainable employment once they are released. You can read more about Martin Bosley's involvement with the Patron Programme on our website at [www.corrections.govt.nz/news/latest\\_news/top\\_chef\\_patron\\_to\\_54\\_new\\_recruits](http://www.corrections.govt.nz/news/latest_news/top_chef_patron_to_54_new_recruits).

Darius Fagan, Chief Probation Officer for Corrections is our current Patron and we have Good Bitches Baking ready to mentor the next cohort of Corrections Officers.

2. *What is the selection process to determine who going to become the next patron for next wing?*
3. *Can public nominate people and who is in charge of this patron selection programme.*

There is no formal process for selection. Nominations are forwarded to me and I then liaise with the Chief Custodial Officer and sometimes the Chief Executive. We are looking for people who do great things in the community and who are looking to share their experiences and values that have developed their own careers.

The general public are welcome to put forward nominations. If you have someone in mind, please forward your nomination to: [info@corrections.govt.nz](mailto:info@corrections.govt.nz).

I trust the information provided is of assistance.

Ngā mihi nui



Rachel Leota  
National Commissioner