

5 March 2020

C118464

Moka Harris
fyi-request-12168-fc926702@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Moka

Thank you for your email of 5 February 2020, requesting information about temporary release from prison. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested:

In regards to life sentenced inmates, that are yet to reach first parole. At what point, if any is he/she able to apply for day release or weekend release to spend with family/spouse/children? Is such thing possible before parole eligibility? If so, under what grounds? And how is an inmate to go about it?

If a prisoner would like to be assessed for temporary release, we encourage them to speak to unit staff or their case manager in the first instance.

Information pertaining to classes of prisoners who may be temporarily released under section 62 is outlined in Corrections Regulations 2005, regulation 26 which is publicly available at: www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2005/0053/latest/DLM315822.html.

Information pertaining to the purposes for which eligible prisoners may be temporarily released or temporarily removed under section 62 is outlined in Corrections Regulations 2005, regulation 29 which is publicly available at: www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2005/0053/latest/DLM315825.html.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with Corrections. 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Powell', written in a cursive style.

Rebecca Powell
General Manager Public Affairs
Corporate Services