

# Hon Mark Mitchell

Minister of Corrections  
Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery  
Minister for Ethnic Communities  
Minister of Police  
Minister for Sport and Recreation



22 January 2026

Kara Johnstone  
Fast-Track Team  
[Substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz](mailto:Substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz)

Dear Kara

Thank you for your email of 4 December 2025, inviting me to comment on the application with the Environmental Protection Authority under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 relating to the Waitākere District Court Fast-track Application. I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this. Comprised in this response are my comments relating to my Corrections portfolio as well as my Police portfolio.

I note that the current application is high level in nature, relating to the designation rather than outlining final plans. Based on the information available at this stage, there are no obvious concerns arising relating to the proposal.

Subject to the receipt of confirmed detailed plans, Corrections has advised me that they acknowledge hypothetical benefits associated with the proposed location. For example, the proximity of the courthouse may make reporting easier for individuals following sentencing, encouraging early compliance with court-ordered conditions. Similarly, my officials have noted that the distance between the proposed location and the Henderson Police Station is short, facilitating the efficient transportation of persons in Police custody.

At the same time, my Officials have noted that it will be important to ensure that appropriate controls are in place to manage any interaction between those attending court and those reporting to or engaging with Corrections services. However, on the information currently available, my Officials have advised me that it appears that the proposed locations are sufficiently separated to mitigate these risks. As noted previously, this assessment remains subject to confirmation through final plans.

I am advised that there will also be an interest in understanding whether the proposed courthouse will include police cells or related custodial infrastructure. My Officials welcome ongoing engagement as more detailed planning is undertaken, to ensure that any operational considerations are appropriately identified and addressed.

The most appropriate contact for ongoing engagement at Corrections is the Manager Resource Management and Land Management, Andrea Millar. She is contactable at [Andrea.millar@corrections.govt.nz](mailto:Andrea.millar@corrections.govt.nz)

The most appropriate contact for ongoing engagement at Police is the Business Delivery Manager, Brian Yanko. He is contactable at [Brian.Yanko@Police.govt.nz](mailto:Brian.Yanko@Police.govt.nz)

Thank you again for the opportunity to feed into this application.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Mitchell'.

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