



On 24 September 2021, your request for information was partly transferred to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) from Kāinga Ora. You requested, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Please could we have information on the following (for all of NZ and by each of the main urban centres – Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, Christchurch):*
 - *Criteria for MSD managed transfers i.e. Transfer Register*
- *Please could we have the data on the following (on a per year basis for the past three years, for all of NZ and by each of the main urban centres – Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, Christchurch):*
 - *The total number of MSD transfers via the Transfer Register, and then the main reasons for the transfers including those requested by the tenant, and those initiated by Kāinga Ora (if applicable).*

Information relating to the first part of your request regarding criteria for managed transfers is available on the Work and Income website, at the following link: www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/social-housing/assessment-of-eligibility/client-requests-a-transfer-01.html. As such, this section of your request is refused under section 18(d) of the Act as the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

Regarding the second part of your request for data on the number of transfers via the Transfer Register, the following information is released to you:

- *Appendix One – Data on MSD Transfers 2018 - 2021*

Please note, the data in Appendix One does not refer to transfers initiated by Kāinga Ora, as those transfers go through a different process known as a Business Initiated Transfer. These transfers are not recorded on the Ministry's Transfer Register.

Additionally, please note that for 'Reason for Housing Need,' clients will only record one reason when applying for a transfer, however there may be multiple reasons that they wish to transfer tenancy.

In regards to 'homelessness' as a category, this is likely to be the original reason for the application for Public Housing which has not been amended when subsequently applying for a transfer. Clients may have originally been homeless when they applied

for Public Housing, but are now residing as an additional occupant in a Public Housing tenancy, and as such will also appear on the transfer register.

To protect privacy, the Ministry uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data. These data tables have had random rounding where, values have been randomly rounded to the nearest multiple of 3. This is applied to all cell counts in the table. The impact of applying random rounding is that columns and rows may not add exactly to the given column or row totals. The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.

In order to protect client privacy, some values are suppressed and are represented by 'S'. The Ministry is unable to provide you with the exact number as releasing this information would risk identifying the individuals concerned. As such, this information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs and public interest in the information.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachments on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui



Karen Hocking
General Manager
Housing