



28 April 2022

Tēnā koe

On 29 March 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- 1. A breakdown of the type of housing required by people on the housing register for the Taumarunui district*
- 2. A breakdown of the most recent housing factsheet with any details that would indicate the need for various sizes of houses*
- 3. Any update to the latest housing factsheet*
- 4. The number of requests for housing in Taumarunui in the past six months*
- 5. The number of people for whom housing has been requested in Taumarunui in the past six months and a breakdown of the number of families, couples, single people on the housing register*
- 6. The amount of public housing available in Taumarunui (how many houses/units/etc.?)*
- 7. The number of people housed in public housing in Taumarunui in the past six months*
- 8. The number of people refused public housing in the past six months, and the reason for refusal*

On 12 April 2022, the Ministry emailed you to advise that part six of your request had been transferred to Kāinga Ora. This part of your request was transferred as the information is not held by the Ministry but is believed to be held by Kāinga Ora. You can expect a response from Kāinga Ora officials in due course.

For the sake of clarity, I will respond to your questions in turn.

- 1. A breakdown of the type of housing required by people on the housing register for the Taumarunui district*
- 2. A breakdown of the most recent housing factsheet with any details that would indicate the need for various sizes of houses*

Please refer to **Table One** in the **attached Excel spreadsheet**, which shows the number of primary applicants in the Ruapehu District on the Housing Registers as at 31 March 2022, broken down by required number of bedrooms.

3. Any update to the latest housing factsheet

The Ministry provides updates about Public Housing through monthly and quarterly reporting. You can view the latest monthly release at the following link: www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/index.html.

4. The number of requests for housing in Taumarunui in the past six months

5. The number of people for whom housing has been requested in Taumarunui in the past six months and a breakdown of the number of families, couples, single people on the housing register

Please refer to **Table Two** in the **attached Excel spreadsheet**, which shows the number of Housing Register Entries for the Ruapehu District between 1 October 2021 and 31 March 2022, broken down by household composition.

6. The number of people housed in public housing in Taumarunui in the past six months

Please refer to **Table Three** in the **attached Excel spreadsheet**, which shows the number of applicants housed from the Housing Register for the Ruapehu District that were housed between 1 October 2021 and 31 March 2022, broken down by quarter ending.

7. The number of people refused public housing in the past six months, and the reason for refusal

I am unable to provide you with this information as it is held in notes on individual case files. In order to provide you with this information, Ministry staff would have to manually review a substantial number of files. As such, I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Act. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

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'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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KH' with a large loop at the bottom.Handwritten initials 'PH' in black ink.

Karen Hocking
**Group General Manager
Housing**