



26 August 2022

Tēnā koe

On 8 July 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information in relation to housing and mental health:

*Please provide copies of briefings, reports, memos, aide memoires, presentations or other key documents relating to the mental health needs and/or support provided by the government to people in the following groups:*

- *the homeless*
- *social housing tenants or those on the waiting list for public housing*
- *residents of emergency housing*

*To narrow the scope of my request, please limit the search to documents held by senior officials or provided to ministers that were created during 2022.*

On 14 July 2022, the Ministry emailed you to clarify if you were referring to Chief Executives when you say senior officials. On 18 July 2022, you confirmed you were requesting documents held by chiefs and deputies.

Please find enclosed the following documents that have been identified in scope of your request:

- REP/22/4/353 – *Update on Flexible Funding for Whānau in Emergency Housing*, dated 28 April 2022
- REP/22/4/284 – *Meeting to discuss report on lesson learned from the Rotorua Emergency Housing Pilot*, dated 1 April 2022

You will note that some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials. The release of this information is likely to prejudice the ability of

government to consider advice and the wider public interest of effective government would not be served.

Furthermore, some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

Cabinet Paper REP/22/1/01 – *Progressing and reset and redesign of the Emergency Housing system*, dated 11 March 2022, has also been identified in scope of your request. However, has been withheld under section 18(d) of the Act, on the basis that the information requested will soon be publicly available on the Ministry of Social Development’s website, at the following link: [www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/information-releases/cabinet-papers/index.html](http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/information-releases/cabinet-papers/index.html).

Cabinet Paper – *Progressing the Emergency Housing System Review*, dated July 2022, has also been identified in scope of your request. However, has been withheld under section 18(d) of the Act, on the basis that the information requested will soon be publicly available on the Ministry of Social Development’s website, at the following link: [www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/information-releases/cabinet-papers/index.html](http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/information-releases/cabinet-papers/index.html).

Finally, the report being referred to in REP/22/4/284 – *Meeting to discuss report on lesson learned from the Rotorua Emergency Housing Pilot*, dated 1 April 2022, can be found at the following link: <https://dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2022-07/implementation-unit-2022-assignments-progress-report.pdf>.

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](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding documentation in relation to housing and mental health, 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui



Alex McKenzie

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