



16 March 2022

Tēnā koe

On 23 February 2022, your request was transferred to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) from the Office of Hon Carmel Sepuloni, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), requesting the following information:

1. *What % of those on the "social housing register" currently, are 65 or older?*
2. *What % of those on the "social housing register" when Labour became Government in 2017 were 65 or older?*

Demand for housing across New Zealand is growing and more people are experiencing a severe and immediate need. This demand is generated by a shortage of affordable housing driving up house prices and rents. People on low incomes are most affected by rising housing costs and many seek financial help through the Ministry.

Please find enclosed **Table One** which outlines the percentage of clients on the Social Housing Register aged 65 years old and older, as at the month ending October 2017 and December 2021.

Table One: The percentage of clients on the Social Housing Register aged 65 years old and older, as at the month ending October 2017 and December 2021.

Month Ending	Total Clients on Register	Clients 65 years and Older on Register	Percentage of Clients 65 years and Older on Register
October 2017	7,317	666	9.1%
December 2021	30,750	2,736	8.9%

Notes:

- This includes applications on both the Housing Register and Transfer Register.

- This only includes priority A and B applications.
- To protect confidentiality 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 to base three 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.

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 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 regarding the number of people 65 years and older on the social housing register, 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
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Housing**