



30 AUG 2016



Dear 

On 1 August 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *A breakdown as to how many people the Housing First component and How many the Better Housing Outcomes is envisaged to cover?*

As you are aware, on 29 July 2016, Hon Paula Bennett, Minister for Social Housing, announced that the Government is investing \$9 million over two years in the next steps of its programme to support the most vulnerable New Zealanders' housing needs.

The package has two main initiatives:

- \$3 million for Housing First, a proven internationally acclaimed initiative that first moves people into housing and then provides support to address the issues underpinning their homelessness;
- \$6 million for Better Housing Outcomes, a range of solutions to prevent homelessness by working with social housing tenants who are at risk of eviction. Up to \$1 million of this fund will support some families who could either look towards home ownership or are able to move into a private rental and free up a social house.

As the Government is still seeking support from local councils and negotiating with social services providers, final decisions on the breakdown of who will be assisted by the two initiatives have not been finalised, however, providers will work with around 2,000 individuals and families.

As such, your request is refused under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act as it is under active consideration. The release of this information is likely to prejudice the quality of information received and the wider public interest of effective government would not be served.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10-152
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Sutherland', written over a circular stamp or watermark.

Rachel Sutherland
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services