



Dear [REDACTED]

On 18 March 2019, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, information regarding Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants (SNGs).

On 29 April 2019, following correspondence with the Ministry, you clarified your request to:

- 1. The mean and the median Emergency Housing SNG amount granted, by quarter and Work and Income region, since July 2017.*
- 2. The number of distinct clients who have received an Emergency Housing SNG, by quarter and Work and Income region, since July 2017.*
- 3. The number of Emergency Housing SNGs granted, by quarter and Work and Income region, since July 2017.*

The Emergency Housing SNG was introduced on 1 July 2016 in order to fund temporary accommodation at places such as hostels and motels to meet people's immediate housing needs. This grant is paid to help meet the cost of short-term accommodation where no Transitional Housing is available. We acknowledge that motels are not a long-term solution, particularly for vulnerable people with complex needs, but they provide a short-term solution while more sustainable options are progressed.

The Ministry pays Emergency Housing SNGs directly to the accommodation provider. This grant is available to people who cannot remain in their usual place of residence, if any, and do not have access to other accommodation which is adequate for their or their family's needs. Assistance is generally granted for up to seven nights, but can be extended dependent on individual circumstances. In most cases, this does not need to be paid back, though this will depend on a household's income.

More information about Emergency Housing SNGs is available here: [www.housing.msd.govt.nz/housing-options/emergency-housing.html](http://www.housing.msd.govt.nz/housing-options/emergency-housing.html).

Please find enclosed a table showing the number of Emergency Housing SNGs granted, number of distinct clients, total amount granted, mean grant amount and median grant amount, by quarter and Work and Income region, since July 2017.

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

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding EH SNGs, 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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Wise', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cassandra Wise

**Manager, Issue Resolution, Service Delivery**

Quarter Ending	Region	Number of Grants	Number of Clients	Amount Granted	Mean Grant Amount	Median Grant Amount
30 Sep 2017	Northland	332	113	\$230,542	\$694	\$712
	Auckland Metro	4,233	1,267	\$5,002,239	\$1,182	\$1,050
	Waikato	265	115	\$265,150	\$1,001	\$1,035
	Taranaki	80	44	\$41,924	\$524	\$410
	Bay of Plenty	735	243	\$627,337	\$854	\$900
	East Coast	1,135	318	\$1,024,498	\$903	\$875
	Central	525	176	\$353,540	\$673	\$693
	Wellington	484	158	\$390,606	\$807	\$807
	Nelson	478	134	\$362,917	\$759	\$800
	Canterbury	294	161	\$148,034	\$504	\$438
	Southern	191	79	\$137,237	\$719	\$665
	Other	407	123	\$380,417	\$935	\$910
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9,159</b>	<b>2,880</b>	<b>\$8,964,440</b>	<b>\$979</b>	<b>\$910</b>
31 Dec 2017	Northland	284	74	\$190,771	\$672	\$500
	Auckland Metro	3,133	972	\$4,198,278	\$1,340	\$1,120
	Waikato	126	48	\$105,055	\$834	\$910
	Taranaki	79	52	\$44,413	\$562	\$448
	Bay of Plenty	474	189	\$406,348	\$857	\$840
	East Coast	502	163	\$476,584	\$949	\$980
	Central	333	126	\$214,076	\$643	\$700
	Wellington	352	143	\$268,930	\$764	\$735
	Nelson	212	74	\$163,600	\$772	\$775
	Canterbury	219	123	\$105,607	\$482	\$395
	Southern	134	57	\$72,819	\$543	\$465
	Other	324	88	\$320,478	\$989	\$1,050
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6,172</b>	<b>2,078</b>	<b>\$6,566,960</b>	<b>\$1,064</b>	<b>\$910</b>
31 Mar 2018	Northland	273	91	\$187,506	\$687	\$750
	Auckland Metro	3,096	946	\$4,053,528	\$1,309	\$1,190
	Waikato	196	82	\$210,564	\$1,074	\$967
	Taranaki	55	26	\$21,748	\$395	\$255
	Bay of Plenty	217	107	\$169,430	\$781	\$805
	East Coast	319	144	\$284,148	\$891	\$840
	Central	311	138	\$202,744	\$652	\$630
	Wellington	597	209	\$560,889	\$940	\$950
	Nelson	236	72	\$212,908	\$902	\$900
	Canterbury	292	161	\$154,111	\$528	\$450
	Southern	190	82	\$124,109	\$653	\$693
	Other	356	107	\$393,049	\$1,104	\$1,253
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6,138</b>	<b>2,123</b>	<b>\$6,574,733</b>	<b>\$1,071</b>	<b>\$945</b>

Quarter Ending	Region	Number of Grants	Number of Clients	Amount Granted	Mean Grant Amount	Median Grant Amount
30 Jun 2018	Northland	393	125	\$280,771	\$714	\$770
	Auckland Metro	4,001	1,115	\$5,855,346	\$1,463	\$1,330
	Waikato	520	165	\$601,326	\$1,156	\$1,050
	Taranaki	106	47	\$58,103	\$548	\$444
	Bay of Plenty	575	236	\$469,347	\$816	\$800
	East Coast	870	280	\$942,258	\$1,083	\$1,100
	Central	485	166	\$352,826	\$727	\$770
	Wellington	849	256	\$855,720	\$1,008	\$1,043
	Nelson	258	92	\$190,753	\$739	\$800
	Canterbury	594	244	\$296,082	\$498	\$500
	Southern	266	103	\$170,729	\$642	\$616
	Other	328	130	\$341,677	\$1,042	\$1,015
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9,245</b>	<b>2,879</b>	<b>\$10,414,939</b>	<b>\$1,127</b>	<b>\$980</b>
30 Sep 2018	Northland	335	115	\$226,605	\$676	\$560
	Auckland Metro	5,725	1,445	\$7,910,254	\$1,382	\$1,260
	Waikato	1,188	280	\$1,748,982	\$1,472	\$1,365
	Taranaki	171	81	\$105,210	\$615	\$500
	Bay of Plenty	1,635	432	\$1,388,802	\$849	\$833
	East Coast	1,406	340	\$1,482,437	\$1,054	\$1,015
	Central	658	235	\$524,141	\$797	\$780
	Wellington	1,099	310	\$1,216,706	\$1,107	\$1,120
	Nelson	304	108	\$237,634	\$782	\$875
	Canterbury	719	293	\$382,058	\$531	\$550
	Southern	324	133	\$198,353	\$612	\$560
	Other	453	151	\$510,009	\$1,126	\$1,120
	<b>Total</b>	<b>14,017</b>	<b>3,840</b>	<b>\$15,931,192</b>	<b>\$1,137</b>	<b>\$980</b>
31 Dec 2018	Northland	280	87	\$164,450	\$587	\$560
	Auckland Metro	5,839	1,359	\$8,584,067	\$1,470	\$1,260
	Waikato	1,829	380	\$2,811,283	\$1,537	\$1,673
	Taranaki	124	73	\$73,417	\$592	\$424
	Bay of Plenty	2,210	477	\$2,388,128	\$1,081	\$926
	East Coast	831	214	\$889,670	\$1,071	\$1,015
	Central	820	229	\$704,013	\$859	\$850
	Wellington	1,452	371	\$2,001,320	\$1,378	\$1,253
	Nelson	472	131	\$388,549	\$823	\$902
	Canterbury	906	322	\$549,951	\$607	\$600
	Southern	296	110	\$199,322	\$673	\$700
	Other	610	210	\$736,713	\$1,208	\$1,120
	Unspecified	7	7	\$4,085	\$584	\$600
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,676</b>	<b>3,749</b>	<b>\$19,494,969</b>	<b>\$1,244</b>	<b>\$1,050</b>	

Quarter Ending	Region	Number of Grants	Number of Clients	Amount Granted	Mean Grant Amount	Median Grant Amount
31 Mar 2019	Northland	157	66	\$88,613	\$564	\$550
	Auckland Metro	6,464	1,495	\$10,134,133	\$1,568	\$1,470
	Waikato	2,128	432	\$3,630,291	\$1,706	\$1,750
	Taranaki	226	81	\$169,419	\$750	\$825
	Bay of Plenty	2,738	554	\$3,163,545	\$1,155	\$1,120
	East Coast	886	252	\$1,115,239	\$1,259	\$1,130
	Central	773	217	\$690,163	\$893	\$910
	Wellington	1,408	390	\$1,877,901	\$1,334	\$1,248
	Nelson	428	114	\$345,731	\$808	\$850
	Canterbury	1,041	381	\$744,817	\$715	\$700
	Southern	236	98	\$176,046	\$746	\$770
	Other	769	324	\$936,470	\$1,218	\$1,155
	Unspecified	10	10	\$7,169	\$717	\$843
	<b>Total</b>		<b>17,264</b>	<b>4,090</b>	<b>\$23,079,536</b>	<b>\$1,337</b>

**Notes:**

- This is a count of grants. A client can have more than one grant in the time period.
- Emergency Housing assistance payments are granted as Special Needs Grants.
- This is the amount granted. The total amount granted may not be the same as the amount spent.
- Region is based on the Work and Income region where the recommending case manager for the application was based at the time of the grant.
- Unspecified Service Centre is where the recommending staff member was not allocated to a specific Service Centre at the time of grant.
- Clients can be counted more than once if they have a grant in more than one region in a quarter. For this reason, the sum of distinct clients by region will be different from the total distinct clients.
- Clients can be counted in multiple quarters if they have grants in more than one quarter.
- The mean average amount granted is the total amount granted divided by the number of grants.
- The median average amount granted is the midpoint of the amount granted values.