



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

Tēnā koe

On 5 September 2021, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information regarding Parnell City Lodge and Parnell Pines Hotel:

- *Please provide details of the number of Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants, the number of Special Needs Grants and the number of any other Grants paid by the Ministry of Social Development ("MSD") and/or Housing Urban Development ("HUD") to the owner and/or operator of the following properties for the period 1 Jan 2021 to 30 June 2021. Please also provide details of the amounts paid by way of each type of Grant in relation to each property for the period 1 Jan 2021 to 30 June 2021*

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.

The Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant (EH SNG) 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 them or their family's needs. The Ministry pays EH SNGs directly to the accommodation supplier and assistance is generally granted for up to seven nights but can be extended dependant on individual circumstances.

After these seven nights Work and Income arrange another appointment with the client to discuss their housing situation and if another grant is required. The Ministry works hard to support people in emergency housing to secure a long-term housing solution, either through public housing or private rental accommodation. Other options including transitional housing can also be explored as an option depending on availability and the individual's circumstances.

The Ministry recognises that motels are not a long-term solution or the solution that we want to deliver for people who are potentially in a vulnerable situation. They provide a short-term solution while more sustainable options are progressed. More information about EH SNGs is available at the following link:

www.workandincome.govt.nz/housing/nowhere-to-stay/emergency-housing.html.

Please see enclosed **Appendix A**, which includes the following three tables:

- **Table One:** The number and amount of Advance Payment of benefit approved for Parnell City Lodge and Parnell Pines Hotel, for the period 01 January 2021 to 30 June 2021, broken down by Rent in Advance, Tenancy Bond, Rent Arrears and other Emergency Payments.
- **Table Two:** The number and amount of Special Needs Grants approved for Parnell City Lodge and Parnell Pines Hotel, for the period 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021, broken down by Emergency Housing and other Emergency Grants.
- **Table Three:** The total amount and number of Special Needs Grant and Advance Payment of Benefit, for the period 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021.

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 Parnell City Lodge and Parnell Pines Hotel, 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
**General Manager
Housing**

Appendix A.

Table One: The number and amount of Advance Payment of benefit approved for Parnell City Lodge and Parnell Pines Hotel, for the period 01 January 2021 to 30 June 2021, broken down by Rent in Advance, Tenancy Bond, Rent Arrears and other Emergency Payments.

Registered name	Advance Payment									
	Rent in Advance		Tenancy Bond		Rent Arrears		Other Emergency Payment		Total	
	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount
Parnell Pines Hotel	S	\$400	S	\$200	S	\$200	0	\$0	S	\$800
Parnell City Lodge	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	S	\$1,050	S	\$1,050
Total	S	\$400	S	\$200	S	\$200	S	\$1,050	S	\$1,850

Table Two: The number and amount of Special Needs Grants approved for Parnell City Lodge and Parnell Pines Hotel, for the period 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021, broken down by Emergency Housing and other Emergency Grants.

Registered name	Special Need Grants					
	Emergency Housing		Other Emergency Grants		Total	
	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount
Parnell Pines Hotel	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Parnell City Lodge	117	\$136,865	S	\$1,855	123	\$138,720
Total	117	\$136,865	S	\$1,855	126	\$138,720

Table Three: The total amount and number of Special Needs Grant and Advance Payment of Benefit, for the period 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021.

Registered name	Total amount and number of Special Needs Grant and Advance Payment of Benefit	
	Number of grants	Amount
Parnell Pines Hotel	S	\$800
Parnell City Lodge	123	\$139,770
Total	126	\$140,570

Notes for all Tables:

- This is a number of grants not a number of clients. A client may have more than one grant for each type and reason.
- Amount is the amount granted. The total amount granted may not be the same as the amount spent.
- 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.
- In certain circumstances low numbers may potentially lead to individuals being identified.
- Due to these privacy concerns, numbers for some categories of clients have been suppressed or aggregated.
- Secondary suppression rules have also been applied when required. Suppressed numbers have been replaced by an 'S'.