



29 March 2022

Tēnā koe

On 17 November 2021, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *REP/21/6/608 - Emergency Housing: Progress on implementing improvements and reporting*
- *REP/21/6/586 - Aide memoire - Draft Cabinet paper: Improving the provision of emergency housing in Rotorua and potential expansion*
- *REP/21/5/530 - Final update on demand for COVID-19 temporary rent arrears assistance*
- *REP/21/5/461 - Update on Emergency Housing in Rotorua*
- *REP/21/7/703 - Report - Review of hardship assistance*
- *REP/21/6/613 - Welfare Overhaul: Pre-employment drug test obligation and sanctions*
- *REP/21/5/552 - Sole Parent students affected by flow-ons from the Budget 2021 main benefit increases*
- *REP/21/5/528 - Welfare Overhaul: Update on the review of the warrant to arrest sanction*
- *REP/21/3/296 - Welfare Overhaul: Confirming the scope for the review of work obligations and sanctions*
- *REP/21/1/003 - Welfare Overhaul: Work Programme Update*
- *REP/21/9/992 - Demand for the Public Housing Register and Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants in 2021*
- *REP/21/9/1028 - Training Incentive Allowance - Update*
- *REP/21/7/698 - Review of MSD's information gathering powers in Schedule 6 of the Social Security Act 2018*
- *REP/21/5/465 - Aide-memoire: Oral item on transforming Emergency Housing in New Zealand*

- *REP/21/7/674 - Supporting high users of hardship assistance*
- *REP/21/5/449 - Food Secure Communities: increasing healthy, affordable food in communities*
- *REP/21/10/1106 - Aide memoire - Responding to sustained demand for access to food and other essential wellbeing items*
- *REP/21/9/961 - Aide memoire: COVID-19 Ministers Group paper - Government's response to increased ongoing demand for access to food and other essential wellbeing items*
- *REP/21/9/930 - Overview of the Government's response to increased demand for access to food and other related services*
- *REP/21/10/1087 - Wage Subsidy Scheme: Investigation referrals to the Serious Fraud Office*
- *REP/21/8/810 - Wage Subsidy Scheme: quarterly update on our on-going approach to integrity*

On 13 December 2021, the Ministry advised you that it required more time to respond to your request. In accordance with section 15(1) and 15A of the Act, the Ministry's decision would be with you no later than 3 March 2022.

On 1 March 2022, the Ministry decided to grant your request in part. And informed you that the information would be sent to you by 31 March 2022.

In response to your request, please find all requested documents attached.

You will note that the names of some individuals are withheld and marked as 'out of scope' as you advised that you did not require the names of Ministry staff who are not decision-makers or below tier 4.

Please note that some information is withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act as it is under active consideration. 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, information is withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act to protect the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions. I believe the greater public interest is in the ability of individuals to express opinions in the course of their duty.

Some information has been withheld, from the following document, under section 6(c) of the Act, where making that information available would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation and detection of offences.

Some information is withheld under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act as it is subject to an obligation of confidence, and if released, could prejudice the

supply of similar information in the future. The greater public interest is in ensuring that such information can continue to be supplied.

A small amount of information is withheld under section 9(2)(h) of the Act in order to maintain legal professional privilege. The greater public interest is in ensuring that government agencies can continue to obtain confidential legal advice.

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.

If you are not satisfied with this response, regarding the 21 reports 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



Magnus O'Neill
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