



6 June 2023

Tēnā koe

On 18 May 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

How much money has MSD or another agency paid to Masterton Motor Lodge for emergency housing (or other short term welfare stay) for the period 1 April 2023 - 30 April 2023? How many grants/ total amount granted/ number of clients and number of nights for the same period? Do the payments from MSD to Masterton Motor Lodge include GST?

Please see the attached **Appendix** containing **Table One** outlining the number of Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants (EH SNGs), Clients, Amount Granted by the Ministry and Total Nights funded by the Ministry to Masterton Motor Lodge from 1 April 2023 to 30 April 2023.

I note your request is asking for the amount paid by 'MSD or any other agency'. The Ministry is the only agency which grants EH SNGs. I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(g) of the Act as the information you had requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is either held by or closely connected to the functions of another department, Minister of the Crown or organisation.

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'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 EH SNGs granted to Masterton Motor Lodge, 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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Hocking', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Karen Hocking
Group General Manager
Housing

APPENDIX

Table One: The number of Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants, Clients, Amount Granted and Total Nights funded to Masterton Motor Lodge from 1 April 2023 to 30 April 2023.

Number of grants	Number of clients	Total Number of Nights	Amount Granted
9	6	106	\$27,760.00

Notes

- Grants is not the same as clients. A client may have more than one grant within a period.
- Amount Granted may not necessarily 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.
- The amount granted is inclusive of GST.