



29 June 2023

Tēnā koe

On 31 May 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requesting information. On that same day, HUD transferred part of your request to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry). This is being considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1. How long is the waitlist for fully wheelchair accessible housing (step-free, wet floor shower, roll under sink) in the Nelson region?*
- 2. How long is the waitlist for partially wheelchair accessible housing (step free, walk-in shower) in the Nelson region?*

We are not able to report on the length of time between an application and the date a tenancy is activated for the application, for applicants requiring specific wheelchair related modifications to a property, as this information is not centrally recorded.

In order to provide you with this information, Ministry staff would have to manually review a substantial number of files. As such, I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Act. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

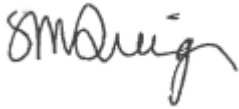
- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

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

If you are not satisfied with this response about waiting lists for applicants requiring wheelchair modifications to a property, 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.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Quigan', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Quigan  
**Manager**  
**Official Information**