



20 December 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your emails of 25 and 26 November 2024, in which you requested information relating to Lantana Lodge.

As the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) advised you 29 November 2024, part of your request, relating to transitional housing, has been transferred to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). I understand you have received a response from HUD on those parts of your request already.

I have considered the remaining parts of your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on each part of your request set out separately below.

- *Can you please provide all information your ministry holds in relation to Lantana? Specifically:*
 - *whether Lantana is on a list/register for emergency, transitional or recovery accommodation ie 'Auckland Emergency Housing Centralised Register'*

I can confirm Lantana Lodge is not a current opted-in supplier of emergency housing.

- *whether Lantana is an accommodation provider of social housing where any lodging costs are paid for in whole or in part by MSD*

I have checked Ministry records and can confirm Lantana Lodge is not recorded as a social housing provider.

- *details of any licences or permits that Lantana has in relation to accommodation including terms/expiry, maximum occupancy, nature of residents (ie corrections)*

The Ministry pays its clients their legal entitlements (e.g. the Accommodation Supplement) which are not contingent upon the compliance status of the property. The Ministry plays no role in monitoring the quality of accommodation used by its clients. Generally, regulation of accommodation premises falls to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and local councils. The Ministry provides clients with options and advice on alternative accommodation but ultimately, the choice of where to live rests with the individual.

- *Please also provide details of any other emergency, transitional or recovery accommodation in Parnell, Auckland that has any association with MSD.*

The Ministry cannot report on Emergency Housing Grants in a specific area, rather the information collated is based on Territorial Local Authority (TLA). However, in the interests of being helpful, I have provided you with the number, amount and count of distinct clients of Emergency Housing Grants, granted to clients whose TLA is Auckland Super City from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2024 in **Tab 1** of the attached **Appendix**.

You will note in Tab 1 that some erroneous payments made due to administration error can be found within the supplied information. Some suppliers may be listed due to a coding error when a client received multiple assistance payments at one point in time, for example for petrol or groceries. Records of these payments remain in the system even after the amount has been fully recovered from the incorrectly paid supplier.

Some information in the attached table has been marked as 'S'. This information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in the information.

- *Did Lantana Lodge receive any 'Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants' (EH SNG) between 2021 until end of financial year 2023/2024 (or until 25/11/24), and if so (a) how much and (b) to how many people for each financial year.*

Please refer to **Tab 2** of the same **Appendix** which provides the number, amount, and count of distinct clients of Emergency Housing Grants granted to Lantana Lodge from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2024.

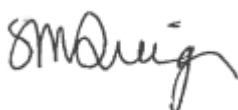
It should be noted that while this part of your request covers the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2024, the last Emergency Housing Grant payment was made to Lantana Lodge on 3 December 2021.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

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 my decision on your request, 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

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services