

15 October 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 30 September 2024 requesting information about the amount paid to Athena Motel for Emergency Housing Grants (EHGs).

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Please find attached **Appendix One** containing Table One outlining the number and amount of EHGs granted to Athena Motel and Apartments from 1 October 2018 to 31 July 2023, broken down by month.

Please note that GST is included in the information provided because the Ministry makes our grants based on the actual accommodation costs that are quoted by the supplier.

In order to protect client privacy, some values are suppressed and are represented by 'S'. The Ministry is unable to provide you with the exact number as releasing this information is likely to risk identifying the individuals concerned. As such, this information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs and public interest in the information.

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

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Magnus O'Neill

General Manager

Ministerial and Executive Services