



16 April 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 18 March 2025, requesting information about Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants.

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

- 1. Total number of applications for Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants, by month and by region, for the period November 2024 to February 2025 (inclusive).*
- 2. Total number of declined Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants, by month and by region, for the period November 2024 to February 2025 (inclusive).*

Please find attached as an **Appendix: Breakdown of Emergency Housing applications processed from 1 November 2024 to 28 February 2025, by application outcome, MSD region and month.**

Please note that it is difficult to compare declines of emergency housing applications pre and post August 2024. On 26 August 2024, the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) introduced changes to tighten the gateway to emergency housing. This included additional decline reasons to align with the emergency housing eligibility changes and improvement in recording applications for emergency housing.

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Graham', written over the 'pp.' text.

Anna Graham

General Manager

Ministerial and Executive Services