

30 April 2025

Tēnā koe

## **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your email of 28 March 2025, requesting the current and forecasted need for emergency housing in West Auckland, particularly for family and whānau-oriented services.

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

The Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) can provide data for both current and forecasted emergency housing.

Accordingly, please find attached **Appendix**: **Number of households receiving Emergency Housing in Auckland and West Auckland.** This contains the following data tables:

- Table 1: Number of households receiving Emergency Housing in Auckland Metro Ministry of Social Development region as at 28 February, by household composition.
- Table 2: Number of households receiving Emergency Housing in West Auckland as at 28 February 2025.
- Table 3: The number of grants for Emergency Housing in Auckland Metro Ministry of Social Development region from 1 February 2025 to 28 February 2025.
- Table 4: The number of grants for Emergency Housing in West Auckland from 1 February 2025 to 28 February 2025.

Please note that data in Table 2 has been recorded as 'S'. This information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in the information.

In addition, the Ministry forecasts demand for EH by Ministry region, so we are unable to provide forecast numbers specifically for West Auckland. The closest we can provide is for the Auckland Metro Ministry region, which broadly aligns with the Auckland Super City area.

The number of clients in EH may not reflect all the demand for EH. The links below may help provide a better picture of housing issues.

The latest forecast (Half-Year Economic and Fiscal Update 2024) was finalised in early November 2024. As at 31 October 2024, there were 99 households in Emergency Housing in Auckland. The number of households in Emergency Housing in Auckland was expected to fall to around 55 by March 2025, before increasing to around 90 by March 2026 and then remain at that level until the end of the forecast period (June 2029).

You can find the monthly time series of actual Emergency Housing household numbers by Ministry region at the following link:

https://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/housing/monthly-housing-reporting.html (click on the first Excel table).

You may also find useful the following links to data on the Ministry's website. Here is the link to the monthly EH data: <a href="mailto:eh-national-monthly-timeseries-datafile-february-2025.xlsx">eh-national-monthly-timeseries-datafile-february-2025.xlsx</a>.

There are two other helpful non-Ministry links that may be of interest to you:

- The Otago School of Medicine provides information on severe housing deprivation based on Census data. You can find a copy of the report here, Severe-Housing-Deprivation-2018-Estimate-Report.pdf
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development have statistics that you can access here <u>Public homes - Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga - Ministry of</u> Housing and Urban Development

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 <a href="https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz">www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</a> or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp.

Anna Graham

General Manager

Ministerial and Executive Services