

3 March 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 31 January 2025, requesting information about the placement of Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) clients at the Sandspit Beach Motor camp over the last two years.

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 separately below.

Question 1 Please provide all correspondence regarding the placement of MSD clients at the Sandspit Beach Motorcamp over the last two years.

The Ministry does not place people in accommodation. The Ministry's role is to provide income support to our clients, including supplementary payments for those who qualify, which may include the Accommodation supplement.

You can find more information on the range of Ministry assistance on our website here: <u>www.workandincome.govt.nz</u>.

To provide you with the information to answer your request for "all correspondence" about clients who may have stayed at Sandspit Beach Motor Camp over the last two years, the Ministry would need to divert personnel from their core duties and allocate extra time to search large numbers of client files to find those that may be in scope of your request, to complete this task. The diversion of these resources would impair the Ministry's ability to continue standard operations and would be an inefficient use of the Ministry's resources. As such, your request is refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as it requires substantial collation. 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 requests 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.

Question 2: Please advise how many clients are currently residing at the camp and the intended duration.

- Telephone 04-916 3300 - Facsimile 04-918 0099

Please find in the attached **Appendix** a spreadsheet that provides a table with the number of current clients who as at the end of December 2023 and December 2024, had a residential address of 15 Rangiwhea Road, Waiuku.

We have provided information to answer your request at two points of time, for the address of the motor camp, for December 2023, and for December 2024. Information on the intended duration of stay is refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as it requires substantial collation. 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 requests 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.

Question 3: Please provide a copy of the tenancy agreement with the Sandspit Beach campsite management.

The Ministry does not enter into tenancy agreements with accommodation providers. Any tenancy arrangement is between the individual and the accommodation supplier. Therefore, I refuse this question under section 18(e) of the Act, as no tenancy agreement exists.

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 <u>OIA Requests@msd.govt.nz.</u>

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 <u>www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</u> or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

8 Marig pp.

Anna Graham General Manager Ministerial and Executive Services