



27 March 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 27 February 2025, requesting information about a breakdown of where clients move to after exiting emergency housing and where prisoners moved to after exiting prison between December 2024 and February 2025.

I have also included some general information about emergency housing exits at the end of this letter, for your further information.

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 does not centrally record regional level emergency housing exit data, or prisoner exit data. If it is held, it would be found on individual client files. In order to provide you with this information, Ministry staff would have to manually review a substantial number of files or would require the data team to divert personnel from their core duties and allocate extra time to complete this task. As such, I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Act. 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.

General information about Emergency Housing Exits

The Ministry can provide the relative proportion of where households go after a spell¹ in emergency housing for those who access services that it holds the data for.

Latest available figures are for September 2024 and show that:

- 27% of households went on to receive Accommodation Supplement

¹A spell is a count of continuous days in emergency housing without a break of 28 days or more. If a household/person leaves emergency housing and returns within 28 days, the existing spell continues.

- 29% of households went on to a social housing tenancy
- 26% of households had moved into transitional housing.

The modelling is limited to those who have accessed further housing support after leaving emergency housing and households are under no obligation to tell the Ministry where they are moving to. For example, we are unable to identify those who have entered a private rental without accessing an Accommodation Supplement or those who move in with family or friends.

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. 

Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services