

21	SEP	2016			
Dear					

On 15 August 2016, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

 A list of 14 Emergency Housing providers, referenced by Minister Hon Paula Bennett in a press release of 1 July 2016: "Also today, the first contracts for fast-tracked funding for emergency housing providers have been put in place. I am pleased to announce that 14 existing providers will receive combined funding of \$1.9 million for 337 places".

You may be aware that as a part of Budget 2016, the Government allocated \$41.1 million over four years towards a new Emergency Housing funding model which is comprised of two parts:

- A new, non-recoverable Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant for individuals and families unable to get into one of the contracted places to cover the cost of Emergency Housing, generally for up to seven days.
- Contracts with selected Emergency Housing providers to provide around 3,000 Emergency Housing places a year (approximately 800 places at any one time) for individuals and families across New Zealand, with a significant proportion of these being in Auckland. This will guarantee the numbers of places available and give providers greater certainty of income. The contracted places will be available to anyone with an urgent need for Emergency Housing.

On 1 June 2016, the Ministry released a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking proposals from providers interested in delivering Emergency Housing contracted places across New Zealand.

Funding delivered through the RFP is for the operational costs associated with the delivery of Emergency Housing accommodation.

Expected service outcomes are:

- An average occupancy rate of at least 90 percent.
- An average stay of no more than twelve weeks.
- A sustainable housing solution identified for all households leaving the service with no households receiving Ministry Emergency Housing support in the six months after leaving a contracted place.

• At least 10 percent of households leaving the service accessing sustainable housing in the private rental market.

This RFP included a fast-track option for Government-funded providers of existing Emergency Housing places or for existing Emergency Housing providers that held Ministry Level two Approval.

Please find below the list of providers that were approved through the fast-track RFP process:

- Comcare
- De Paul House
- Te Manawanui Trust
- Island Child
- Monte Cecilia Housing Trust
- Whānau Resource Centre o Pukekohe Charitable Trust
- Te Roopu o Te Whānau Rangimarie o Tamaki Makaurau
- Ngati Awa Social and Health Services Trust
- The Salvation Army NZ Trust
- Te Whakaruruhau 2013 Inc (Womens Refuge)
- Waitomo Papakainga Development Society
- Tai Tokerau
- Koraunui Marae Charitable Trust

You may note that there are 13 providers who were approved through the fast-track process, not 14 providers. At the time of Hon Paula Bennett's press release, the proposals had not been finalised and the 14 Emergency Housing providers referenced in the press release represented those providers that had submitted proposals through the fast-track option. One of these 14 providers did not have existing Government-funded properties and the provider is bringing new properties to the market. As such their proposal was evaluated with those of other providers that did not have existing Government-funded properties, and was therefore not approved through the fast-track process.

I hope you find this information helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10-152
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely

Kay Read

Associate Deputy Chief Executive, Social Housing