



19 December 2022

Tēnā koe

On 24 November 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *How much emergency housing do you have in Palmerston North?*
- *How many motel units as emergency housing do you have and how many actual emergency houses are owned by MSD?*
- *What other providers do you enlist for emergency housing and what is their capacity?*

The Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant (EH SNG) is available to people who cannot remain in their usual place of residence, if any, and do not have access to other accommodation which is adequate for them or their family's needs. The Ministry pays EH SNGs directly to the accommodation supplier and assistance is generally granted for up to seven nights but can be extended dependent on individual circumstances.

After these seven nights, Work and Income arranges another appointment with the client to discuss their housing situation and whether another grant is required. The Ministry works hard to support people in emergency housing to secure a long-term housing solution, either through public housing or private rental accommodation. Other options including transitional housing can also be explored as an option depending on availability and the individual's circumstances.

In order to receive an EH SNG payment, the accommodation supplier must register with the Ministry as a supplier. The Ministry can only pay into the bank accounts of registered suppliers, and this registration does not create a contractual relationship between the Ministry and the registered supplier.

Your request for a list of providers owned by the Ministry is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as this information does not exist. The Ministry does not own any emergency housing providers.

The Ministry does not record the capacity of any suppliers who choose to receive EH SNG payments. This aspect of your request is refused section 18(g) of the Act as the information you had requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is either held by or closely connected to the functions of another department, Minister of the Crown or organisation.

The Ministry has interpreted your request for 'how much' emergency housing the Ministry has in Palmerston North as asking for the number of Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants (EH SNGs) that were granted in the Palmerston North Territorial Local Authority (TLA) during the 2022 year by quarter. Please see **Table One** in the below **Appendix** for this information.

The suppliers that received a EH SNG on behalf of a client with an address in the Palmerston North TLA during 2022 are shown in **Table Two** in the below **Appendix**.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

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 this response regarding emergency housing, 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



Karen Hocking
**Group General Manager
Housing**

Appendix

Table One: Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants (EH SNGs) granted in the Palmerston North Territorial Local Authority (TLA) during 2022 by quarter

Quarter	Number of Grants	Number of distinct clients	Amount Granted
March 2022	1,104	285	\$2,600,789.53
June 2022	948	240	\$2,436,544.48
September 2022	942	255	\$2,247,660.00
Total	2,997	492	\$7,284,994.01

Table Two: List of suppliers in the Palmerston North Territorial Local Authority who have received an Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant in 2022

Supplier Name
84G HOLDINGS LIMITED
A'LA VISTA MOTEL
ACCOMMODATION GATEWAY MOTEL
ALPHA MOTOR INN
ALWAYS INN MOTEL LIMITED
AMBASSADOR MOTEL
AOTEA LODGE
AURA HOTEL
AWATEA PARK MOTEL
BIG FIVE MOTEL
BIG FIVE MOTEL - PALMERSTON NORTH
BK'S EGMONT MOTOR LODGE
BROADWAY MOTOR INN
BULLS MOTEL & HOLIDAY PARK
CARRAMAR MOTOR INN
CASA MEXICANA MOTEL
CASH CONVERTERS PALMERSTON NORTH

Supplier Name continued
DECO CITY MOTOR LODGE
DESTINY ON FITZHERBERT
ESSEN LIVING
FEILDING MOTEL
FITZHERBERT REGENCY MOTOR LODGE
FITZROY BEACH HOLIDAY PARK
HACIENDA MOTOR LODGE
HALF MOON BAY MOTEL
HALSWELL LODGE
HARRINGTONS MOTOR LODGE
LEGACY HOUSING
LEGACY HOUSING - ACACIA COURT (MOTEL)
LEGACY HOUSING - PENNY'S ACCOMMODATION
MASTERTON MOTOR LODGE
NORTH LODGE
OCEAN MOTEL
PALMERSTON NORTH MOTEL
PARAKAI SPRINGS LODGE
PAVILION MOTEL
QUALITY SUITES CENTRAL SQUARE
QUEST ON THE TERRACE
REDWOOD LODGE MOTEL
ROSE CITY MOTEL
THE NEW RAILWAY HOTEL ACCOMMODATION
THE POST HOTEL
THE VILLAS MOTEL
THE WAREHOUSE - PALMERSTON NORTH

Notes for both tables:

- The registered supplier name is the name of the parent company of the accommodation supplier, and not necessarily the name of the accommodation itself.
- The Ministry has supplied this list of emergency housing suppliers from our centralised records. To expedite the information release, the Ministry has not investigated any recording anomalies within the data release.

- For context, some of these suppliers may have only received a small number of payments, others may have received a payment incorrectly and have subsequently been refunded or recoded.
- TLA is estimated based on the clients address at the time of the grant. It may not be the same as the address of the emergency housing provider.
- Ungeocoded address records that are unable to be matched to a TLA through suburb and city details have an unknown TLA.
- One registered supplier may provide accommodation across multiple premises. These premises may be in different locations or operating trading names but are receiving payment through the single supplier record.
- The number of Grants is not the number of individuals. A client can have more than one grant in each time period.
- Amount granted is not necessarily the amount spent.
- To protect confidentiality the Ministry of Social Development uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data.
- These data tables have had random rounding to base three applied to all cell counts in the table.
- Random rounding does not round down to zero, a value of one or two will be rounded to three.
- The impact of applying random rounding is that columns and rows may not add exactly to the given column or row totals.
- The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.