



8 February 2022

Tēnā koe

On 29 November 2021, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *The total grants for Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants paid to Ritz Enterprises Limited from the period 1 July 2019 to as late as possible or is available in 2021.*
- *The total of Wage Subsidies granted/claimed for Ritz Enterprises from March 2020 to November 2021, and*
- *Any Resurgence Support Payments granted/claimed to Ritz Enterprises Limited for the period of 18 August 2021 to 2 December 2021.*

On 14 January 2022, the Ministry informed you that more time was required to respond to your request as the Ministry needed to consult with other parties.

In the interests of clarity, your questions will be addressed in turn.

1. *Total grants for Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants paid to Ritz Enterprises Limited*

Please find enclosed **Appendix A** which contains the following table:

- **Table One:** The number of Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants (EH SNGs) to the company Ritz Enterprises Limited during the period 1 July 2019 to 30 November 2021
2. *The Total of Wage Subsidies granted/claimed for Ritz Enterprises from March 2020 to November 2021*

The Ministry can advise that Ritz Enterprises Limited received the Consolidated Wage Subsidy totalling \$37,888.80 in April 2020, which was fully repaid in May 2020, and the August 2021 Wage Subsidy totalling \$18,000.00. There has been no request for repayment of the August Wage Subsidy as the company's accountant was able to show a decline in income.

The COVID-19 Wage Subsidies - Employer Search which might be of use can be found online at the following link: [www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/newsroom/2020/covid-19/covid-19-wage-subsidy-employer-search.html](http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/newsroom/2020/covid-19/covid-19-wage-subsidy-employer-search.html).

Please note, the Ministry developed this online search tool with close involvement from the Privacy Commissioner to ensure compliance with the Privacy Act 2020. To protect the privacy of employees and employers of small businesses, the Ministry has omitted employers with fewer than three employees from the search tool. Publishing this information on a public register would make the personal information of sole traders and other small businesses public. The aim of the search tool is not to identify individual persons who received the wage subsidy, and the protection of privacy for natural persons outweighed the public interest for this information.

### *3. Resurgence Support Payments granted/claimed to Ritz Enterprises Limited*

This question was transferred to Inland Revenue on 10 December 2021, as this question is more closely aligned with their functions. You can expect a response from Inland Revenue in due course.

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 and attachments 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](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding Ritz Enterprises Limited, 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

George Van Ooyen  
**General Manager**  
**Client Service Support**

## Appendix A

**Table One: The number of Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants (EH SNGs) to the company Ritz Enterprises Limited during the period 1 July 2019 to 30 November 2021**

<b>Supplier name</b>	<b>Number of grants</b>
Ritz Enterprises Limited	468

### Notes:

- The number of grants is not the number of clients.
- A client may have more than one grant during the reported period.
- The company name is Ritz Enterprises Limited but the supplier trading name is Takapuna Motor Lodge.
- 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.
- A value of one or two may be rounded to zero or 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.