



24 November 2022

Tēnā koe

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On 2 November 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Which of these hotels are still doing EH in Nelson/Tasman.*
  1. *Abelia Motor Lodge,*
  2. *Courtesy Court Motel,*
  3. *Driftwood Motel,*
  4. *Tudor Lodge Motel,*
  5. *Muritai Property Investments Ltd,*
  6. *Abbey Court Motel,*
  7. *Milton Chalet Motel,*
  8. *Richmond Motel and Holiday Park,*
  9. *Kings Gate Motel*
  10. *Tāhuna Beach Holiday Park and Motel.*

On 3 November 2022, you further advised Jerome Cvitanovich of the Ministry's Media team:

- *Yes to the highlighted period above (1 July to 30 September this year). If there is more recent information as to which hotels will continue to offer EH that would be great - to the end of this year.*

Demand for housing across New Zealand is growing and more people are experiencing a severe and immediate need. This demand is generated by a shortage of affordable housing driving up house prices and rents. People on low incomes are most affected by rising housing costs and many seek financial help through the Ministry.

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.

The Ministry recognises that motels are not a long-term solution or the solution that we want to deliver for people who are potentially in a vulnerable situation. They provide a short-term solution while more sustainable options are progressed. More information about EH SNGs is available here: [www.workandincome.govt.nz/housing/nowhere-to-stay/emergency-housing.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/housing/nowhere-to-stay/emergency-housing.html).

Some people may struggle to access suitable housing due to a lack of available supply or they simply may not be able to meet the high cost of housing which may result in them receiving EH SNG support for an extended period of time.

For people with high and complex needs, it can sometimes be challenging to identify suitable long-term housing, which can lead to longer stays in emergency housing. Work and Income work closely with these people to see what can be done to ensure that once they have a home of their own, they have the skills to sustain it, and the support they need to keep it.

The way the Ministry determines whether a supplier is providing emergency housing is by payments made to suppliers. For the purposes of responding to your request, please see attached, **Appendix One** containing **Table One**, showing the date of the last EH SNG paid to each of supplier in the Nelson City and Tasman District Territorial Local Authority.

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

If you are not satisfied with this response, 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

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Hocking', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Karen Hocking  
**Group General Manager  
Housing**