



16 March 2023

Tēnā koe

On 28 February 2023 you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

Hi there, could you please provide the number of households and individuals currently being housed in emergency housing accommodation in Rotorua - i.e. receiving an EHSNG? Please provide this data by name of accommodation provider to the most recent date available.

Just an update of the attached table would be great thanks.

Demand for housing across New Zealand is growing and many 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 dependant on individual circumstances.

To protect the privacy of natural persons, the number of individuals currently being housed in individual motels in Emergency Housing accommodation in Rotorua has been refused under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

However, please see the attached **Appendix** containing **Table One** which outlines the number of households in receipt of an Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant in the Rotorua District Territorial Local Authority (TLA), as at 28 February 2023.

You may also find statistics on the monthly reporting on the use of temporary housing options helpful on the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development's website, which can be found here: www.hud.govt.nz/assets/Rotorua-Temporary-Housing-Dashboard/Rotorua-Temporary-Housing-Dashboard-January-2023-V3.pdf

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 EH SNGs in Rotorua, 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: The number of households in receipt of an Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant in the Rotorua District TLA, as at 28 February 2023, by supplier name.

MSD Supplier Name	Households
ACCOLADE LODGE MOTEL	6
ACE MOTOR LODGE	5
APEX ON FENTON MOTEL	9
B-K'S ROTORUA MOTOR LODGE	6
BIRCHWOOD SPA MOTEL	12
BRYLIN MOTEL	5
CACTUS JACKS BACKPACKERS	6
FENTON COURT MOTEL	18
GIBSON COURT MOTEL - ROTORUA	9
KERRY'S MOTEL	6
LA MIRAGE MOTEL	6
MANHATTAN MOTEL	6
RED ROCK THERMAL MOTEL	5
ROSE COURT MOTEL	15
THE GRAND TREASURE HOTEL LIMITED	21
VICTORIA LODGE ROTORUA	12
Total	141

Notes:

- Emergency Housing assistance payments are granted as Special Needs Grants.
- The number of households is the number of distinct clients granted Emergency Housing.
- Territorial Local Authority (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.
- 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.
- 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.

- 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.
- In certain circumstances low numbers may potentially lead to individuals being identified.
- Due to these privacy concerns, numbers for some categories of clients have been suppressed. Suppressed numbers have been replaced by an 'S'