



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

15 November 2023

Tēnā koe

On 17 October 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- 1. How many applications for NIWE TAA have been made to date?*
- 2. How many have been approved?*
- 3. How many have been declined?*
- 4. If declined, can I please have the reason?*
- 5. How many are being processed?*
- 6. Can this data please be broken into regions?*

Temporary Accommodation Assistance (TAA) is intended to provide help to eligible homeowners:

- whose home they usually live in was damaged by a severe weather event and they can no longer live in their home.
- who have homeownership costs and temporary accommodation costs.
- whose insurance cover for temporary accommodation has expired.

You can find further information regarding TAA at the following link:
<https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/extra-help/temporary-accommodation-assistance-niwe/introduction.html>.

Please find attached **Table One** providing the number of applicants with a TAA application as at 24 October 2023, broken down by application status and region.

Some numbers are replaced by an S. This is because this information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of individuals. The need for privacy outweighs the public interest in this information.

Please also find attached **Table Two** containing the number of clients with a declined TAA application, as at 24 October 2023, broken down by decline reason.

The Temporary Accommodation Assistance payments were set up as targeted support for a specific group of people, and the Ministry can only provide these payments when specific eligibility criteria are met. You can find the eligibility criteria [here: https://workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/temporary-accommodation-assistance.html](https://workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/temporary-accommodation-assistance.html)

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 Temporary Accommodation Assistance, 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.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Karen Hocking
**Group General Manager
Housing**



Table One: Number of clients with a Temporary Accommodation Assistance application, as at 30 October 2023 by application status and region

Region	Application Status			Total
	Being processed	Grant	Decline	
Auckland	12	72	30	117
Bay of Plenty	0	0	S	S
Central	0	0	S	S
East Coast	9	12	6	27
Waikato	0	0	S	S
Wellington	0	0	S	S
West Coast Tasman	S	S	S	6
Total	24	90	42	153

Table Two: Number of clients with a declined Temporary Accommodation Assistance application, as at 30 October 2023 by decline reason

Decline reason	Total
Client requested not to continue	3
Financial circumstances are not met	6
In MBIE's Temporary Accommodation Service	3
Lack of representation	3
Does not have costs for damaged property.	3
No impact by approved event	12
Not the owner of the damaged property	12
Not registered for MBIE Temporary Accommodation Service	3
Other	3
Other temporary accommodation available	3
Not insured or under insured	3
With Family/Friends	3
Total	42

Notes for Table One and Two:

- This data is operational due to the current events and may not be replicable. This is an exception to the standard reporting guidelines.
- Region is based on the location of damaged property.

Confidentiality notes for Table One and Two:

- 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 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 or aggregated.
- Secondary suppression rules have also been applied when required. Suppressed numbers have been replaced by an 'S'.