



2 April 2024

Tēnā koe

### **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your email of 2 March 2024, requesting information about transitional housing and a breakdown of Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants (EH SNGs) paid to Ritz Enterprises Ltd and Bridgeway Hospitality Ltd for the months of January and February 2024.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision set out below.

***The amount of monies that Ritz Enterprises Ltd trading as Takapuna Motor Lodge and Ritz Residences receives in Emergency Housing Special needs grants for the period of 1 February 2024 to 29 February 2024.***

**Table One:** Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants granted to the companies Ritz Enterprises Limited and Bridgewater Hospitality Limited, during the period 1 January 2024 to 29 February 2024, broken down by month.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Supplier Name</b>	<b>Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants granted</b>
January 2024	Takapuna Motor Lodge	\$42,878.50
	Dupont Motels	\$166,757.00
February 2024	Takapuna Motor Lodge	\$19,083.00
	Dupont Motels	\$163,482.00

### **Notes:**

- Bridgewater Hospitality Limited is trading as Dupont Motels.
- Ritz Enterprises Limited is trading as Takapuna Motor Lodge.
- The total amount granted may not be the same as the amount spent.

***Whether these payments are for Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants or are they for Transitional Housing?***

I can advise that the payments listed in **Table One** is for EHSNGs.

***Is there any difference between the two types of payments***

The EHSNG 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 EHSNGs directly to the accommodation supplier and assistance is generally granted for up to seven nights but can be extended dependant on individual circumstances.

After these seven nights Work and Income arrange another appointment with the client to discuss their housing situation and if 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 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 EHSNGs is available at the following link:

- [www.workandincome.govt.nz/housing/nowhere-to-stay/emergency-housing.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/housing/nowhere-to-stay/emergency-housing.html)

Transitional Housing provides warm, dry, short-term accommodation housing for people and families who don't have anywhere to live. It includes support services to help people secure a longer-term home and get back on their feet so that they're in a stronger position to stay housed. Families and individuals stay in Transitional Housing for an average of 12 weeks or more. In most cases, they receive a further 12 weeks support once they've found a more permanent place to live.

Transitional Housing places are contracted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are managed by specialists who are skilled in providing a range of social and tenancy-related support. The Ministry of Social Development's Regional Contract Managers manage the contract. Transitional Housing suppliers are registered as suppliers to Work and Income. This process includes providing evidence that that the entity registering is the owner of the property or is authorised to act as the owner.

More information about transitional housing is available here:

- [www.hud.govt.nz/our-work/transitional-housing/](http://www.hud.govt.nz/our-work/transitional-housing/)

***How long will this supplier keep receiving these monies ?***

This information 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. As such I am refusing your request for 'how long the supplier will keep receiving these monies' under section 18(g) of the Act.

However, I can advise that the suppliers named in your request have opted into the Ministry's Supplier standards and as such can continue to supply Emergency Housing.

More information about the supplier standards is available at the following Work and Income link:

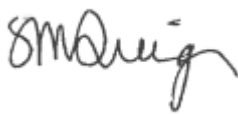
- [www.workandincome.govt.nz/providers/housing-providers/emergency-housing/supplier-standards.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/providers/housing-providers/emergency-housing/supplier-standards.html)

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

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 my decision on your request, 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

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill  
**General Manager**  
**Ministerial and Executive Services**