



12 August 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 15 July 2024, requesting an update of your ongoing request for Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants (EHSNGs) paid by the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) to motels associated with Annie Enterprises Limited and Rajesh and Sushriya Sachdeva.

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

Please see the attached **Appendix** providing the number of hardship grants and the amount granted to selected suppliers 1 April to 30 June 2024

The Appendix includes:

- **Table 1: The number of hardship grants and the amount granted to selected suppliers during the period 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024** by quarter, supplier, and grant type. This table includes Advance Payment of Benefit and Special Needs Grant details.
- **Table 2: The number of hardship grants and the amount granted to selected suppliers during the period 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024** by quarter, supplier, and payment reason. This table includes emergency housing and other grants.

Please note that GST is included in the information provided because the Ministry makes our grants based on the actual accommodation costs that are quoted by the supplier. You will note that the information regarding some individuals is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

In addition to EHSNGs made by the Ministry to Annie Enterprises, Rajesh and Sushriya Sachdeva, you also requested information we hold about:

- GH Holdings Limited
- Ripul Sachdeva
- Sunita Sachdeva
- BK Group

- BKGroup17
- Sush Enterprises Ltd
- Balraj Kumar Krishna

Your request for this information is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as this document does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

Lastly, I note your email also of 15 July 2024, at 1.20pm, which requested the following:

My request is to be provided with details of MSD payments made to Emergency Housing providers for the period 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024. Please provide the information in Excel format as an update to the response dated 10 June 2024 which was provided to me as a result of my request dated 20 May 2024.

This letter only replies to your second email of 15 July 2024, received at 1.40pm, as this was mistaken to be a clarification of your earlier email. However, through the final assurance checks, it appears to us that this was likely intended to be a stand-alone request. I apologise for this oversight.

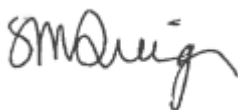
We will prioritise processing of your first email received on 15 July 2024 now, and I am extending the timeframe to respond to that request, to **27 August 2024**, or sooner if we are able.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details included as you request, 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.

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 or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services