



18 January 2024

Tēnā koe

### **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your email of 12 December 2023, requesting information about private residentials that have received an Emergency Housing Specials Needs Grant (EH SNG) in Poverty Bay.

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

The Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) categorises accommodation for emergency housing as the following:

- Motel/hotel
- Hostel
- Holiday Park/Campground
- Marae
- Shelter

In 2020, the Ministry stopped funding private rentals for emergency housing. As such, the Ministry does not have any registered suppliers providing private rentals for emergency housing purposes. More information about this can be found here: [Inquiry into the Ministry of Social Development's funding of private rental properties for emergency housing \(oag.parliament.nz\)](https://www.oag.parliament.nz/inquiry-into-the-ministry-of-social-development-s-funding-of-private-rental-properties-for-emergency-housing)

The Ministry has considered whether we can provide you with a list of private rentals that received an EH SNG in Poverty Bay prior to 2020. However, in order to provide you with this information, the Ministry would need to divert personnel from their core duties and allocate extra time to complete this task. The diversion of these resources would impair the Ministry's ability to continue standard operations and would be an inefficient use of the Ministry's resources. As such, your request is refused under section 18(f) of the Act, requires substantial collation. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your requests given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

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 regarding emergency housing in Poverty Bay, 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**