

22 February 2024

Ohakune Ratepayers and Residents' Society Inc
fyi-request-24691-921fc9f0@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koutou Ohakune Ratepayers and Residents' Society Inc

Thank you for your request to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Your request was partially transferred to Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities on 25 January 2024:

2./ On 4th April an agreement was signed between HUD & KO for \$5.2m, the next month this was increased (at KO expense). We have sighted emails between May - July 2023 stating the figure had ballooned to \$7.5m which KO would fund by "selling houses". Please provide copies of emails or documents that relate to this change and any discussions around them between this same time frame.

3./ On 4th August 2023, we discovered a Conflict of Interest (COI) between a Project Lead, Giles Tait, who owns a property via Trust that neighbours stage 1 of the project, It was stated a verbal COI was given when he joined in October, but he only registered an official COI in on 7th August after written parliamentary questions and media questioning. The contract between HUD & KO has provisions for registering conflicts, please provide copies dates and conflicts registered against the project.

7./ While funding and all communications talks about 44 lots, 46 residential lots have been applied for. Please provide documentation or emails relating to the use or ownership of the additional two residential lots.

Regarding Question 2, I refer you to published information on our website. This includes OIA responses of 26 September 2023, and 18 October 2023 on our website at:

https://kaingaora.govt.nz/en_NZ/urban-development-and-public-housing/public-housing/public-housing-developments/manawatu-whanganui-region/teitei-drive/

Regarding Question 3, I refer you to our responses the Society's President Mr Barry Murphy dated 31 October 2023 – reference OI 23 504 and OI 23 522. I also refer you to written parliamentary questions 23323 (2023), 23767 (2023), and 23768 (2023) which are publicly available at:

<https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/order-paper-questions/written-questions/>

Regarding Question 7, I refer you to previous multiple OIA responses to you, including the response dated 23 January 2024 (reference OI 23 750). As previously advised, all documentation and communications regarding the number of lots has been provided to you, and is published on our website, at the above link.

I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the information you have requested is publicly available.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision on your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that Kāinga Ora proactively releases its responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request may be published at <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/publications/official-information-requests/>, with your personal information removed.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Tamsyn'.

Tamsyn McDonald
Acting General Manager – Urban Development and Delivery