

3 MAY 2019

Tim Makarios

fyi-request-10167-12b21462@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Makarios

Thank you for your official information request, received 18 April 2019 via the *fyi* website, regarding empty properties in Epuni East. Housing New Zealand's response is provided below, following each question.

1. *Regarding the dwelling in Epuni East that Housing New Zealand purchased on 8 June 2018 and that was still vacant on 27 February 2019: was it categorized in your response to my previous question as "ready to let", "temporary accommodation", or "under repair"?*
 - temporary accommodation.

2. *Regarding the dwelling in Epuni East that Housing New Zealand purchased on 31 July 2018 and that was still vacant on 27 February 2019: was it categorized in your response to my previous question as "ready to let", "temporary accommodation", or "under repair"?*
 - temporary accommodation.

3. *Regarding the Housing New Zealand dwelling in Epuni East that had been vacant for 140 days on 27 February 2019: was it categorized in your response to my previous question as "ready to let", "temporary accommodation", or "under repair"?*
 - temporary accommodation.

4. *Regarding the Housing New Zealand dwelling in Epuni East that had been vacant for 64 days on 27 February 2019: was it categorized in your response to my previous question as "ready to let", "temporary accommodation", or "under repair"?*
 - under repair – this property is undergoing major repair.

5. *Regarding the Housing New Zealand dwelling in Epuni East that had been vacant for 6 days on 27 February 2019: was it categorized in your response to my previous question as "ready to let", "temporary accommodation", or "under repair"?*
 - under repair – when a property is vacated, routine repair and maintenance work is carried out before a new tenant is signed up.

6. Regarding the two Housing New Zealand dwellings in Epuni East that had been vacant for 2 days on 27 February 2019: were they categorized in your response to my previous question as "ready to let", "temporary accommodation", or "under repair"?
- under repair – as above

7. Do the quarterly "vacant stock" reports such as <https://hnzc.co.nz/assets/Publications/Research/Housing-Statistics-Vacant-Properties/December-2018/Vacant-stock-31-December-2018.pdf> include all dwellings owned by Housing New Zealand that are vacant on the specified date?
- Yes

For each of the dwellings that was classified as "temporary accommodation" in your response to my previous question, please provide the following information:

8. Which of the following categories in your "vacant stock" reports did the dwelling belong to on 27 February 2019: "ready to let", "under repair", "pending decision", "pending redevelopment", "renewal and maintenance", or "SLED"?
- These properties were all categorised as pending decision.
9. If the dwelling was vacant on 31 December 2018, which of those categories did the dwelling belong to in the "vacant stock" report for that date, as linked to above?
- These properties were all categorised as pending decision.

I am declining to provide information in response to questions 10, 11, 12 and 13 under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA on the basis that Housing New Zealand does not provide the specific addresses of our properties to the public or private parties that express an interest in them. Housing New Zealand considers the addresses to be the personal information of the tenants.

We believe this privacy interest is not only held by current tenants but extends to future tenants of our properties. Therefore, we do not disclose the address of a property that is vacant if it may be re-tenanted in the future.

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

Yours sincerely



Rachel Kelly
Manager Government Relations