



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

31 October 2023

Adam Ward

fyi-request-24321-a52efd34@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Adam Ward

On 3 October 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Please can you provide counts of the number of people on the State Housing Register by Statistical Area 2 (using 2023 boundaries) for the Quarter ending March 2023.*

I appreciate that in order to protect the privacy of individuals all counts will be random rounded and all counts between 1 and 6 inclusive will be suppressed.

Please include 2023 SA2 codes in the output

The Ministry regularly publishes information about Emergency Housing and the Public Housing Register. This information is available on our website at the following link: www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/housing/monthly-housing-reporting.html.

In our monthly reporting, we classify people into regions for Public Housing based on the address of the main applicant at the date of the published report. It does not necessarily indicate where the applicants have requested to live. We report based on the Ministry's regions, as explained here: www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/corporate/annual-report/2018-2019/overview/our-locations.html.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) also publishes data concerning the Public Housing Register, broken down by Territorial Local Authority (TLA), which is available here: www.hud.govt.nz/stats-and-insights/the-government-housing-dashboard/housing-register/#tabset.

We do not report on this data, at levels below TLA or Ministry regions. To do so would require substantial manual collation work by Ministry staff, to bring together accurate datasets at levels below TLA.

I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(f) of the Act, on the basis that substantial manual collation and research would be required to answer your request. 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 request 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.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

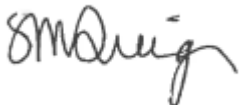
- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

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 this response, 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



Sarah Quigan
Manager
Official Information