

17 JAN 2013

Brendon Mills  
fyi-request-463-7f936fdd@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Mills

Thank you for your email of 31 July 2012 to the Minister of Housing requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982. On 2 August 2012 the Minister transferred your following request to Housing New Zealand Corporation, under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act:

*"How many state houses have been sold to the private sector since 2008"*

Unfortunately, your request did not come to the attention of the Corporation until 7 December 2012. I apologise for the delay in my response and the inconvenience this may have caused. I have since considered your request and can advise you that the Corporation sold 864 state rental properties to the private sector from 1 July 2008 to 8 January 2013. A breakdown of this information is provided in the attached table. Please note that the Corporation reports property sales by financial year. Therefore, I have included property sales from 1 July 2008.

It may be useful if I explain that the Corporation sells properties for a variety of reasons. These include the property being old and too expensive to maintain, no longer meeting customer needs, being highly valued, and not being in the right place to meet demand.

You may be interested to know that when a property is sold the proceeds of a sale are reinvested in reconfiguring the Corporation's portfolio to better match the size and location of its houses to meet the requirements of today's families. This involves selling surplus properties in low demand areas and properties that are poorly configured for demand, and acquiring additional fit-for-purpose properties in priority demand areas.

The Corporation is committed to investing in new, warm, dry, improved state housing, with homes that are the right size for its applicants today and in the future.

Yours sincerely



**Sharon Girvan**  
Manager Government Relations (Acting)

**Housing New Zealand Corporation properties sold to the private sector from 1 July 2008 to 8 January 2013**

| <b>Year</b>  | <b>Number of state house sales to the private sector</b> |
|--------------|--|
| 2008/2009    | 190  |
| 2009/2010    | 150  |
| 2010/2011    | 64   |
| 2011/2012    | 191  |
| 2012/2013*   | 269  |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>864</b>   |

\*As at 8 January 2013

Note: The above table does not include properties sold to tenants under the Tenant Home Ownership Programme or Inter-Company Property Transfers.

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OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT