



File No. DOIA18/19100021

Ben Moore

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Dear Ben,

Thank you for your email received at the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development on 31 October 2018 in relation to information on the ballot process within the KiwiBuild initiative.

You requested specifically:

- 1. "The ballot process used to allocate available KiwiBuild properties along with any documented guidelines for staff in undertaking this activity.*
- 2. Information provided to prospective KiwiBuild buyers outlining the rules and requirements by which the ballot was drawn.*
- 3. Information on when and by whom the ballot was drawn, including what official(s) oversaw its drawing, and the mechanism used to randomly draw.*
- 4. Whether or not any properties were re-allocated or otherwise not transferred to the first drawn winners, and in any cases where this took place the reasons why.*
- 5. Any advice or information received or produced on compliance with the Gambling Act 2004 or other legislation related to games of chance."*

The following information is released under the Official Information Act (the Act):

The KiwiBuild ballot process utilises a computer application on the Microsoft Dynamics 365 platform. It uses a random number generator which is part of a C-Sharp.net code library. The system was chosen to ensure the impartiality of the ballot system.

1. Only pre-qualified eligible KiwiBuild buyers are able to enter the ballot for KiwiBuild homes. The system randomly assigns each application a unique "application number". This preserves the anonymity of the applicant/s.
2. An applicant/s can enter the ballot for as many properties as they wish. If they want to enter the ballot for more than one KiwiBuild home, they must enter the ballot for each home separately.
3. When applicant/s enters a ballot, the system randomly assigns the ballot entry a unique "ballot number".
4. The ballot is only drawn after all ballot entries are confirmed. Confirmed ballot entries are those from pre-qualified eligible KiwiBuild buyers who, at the time they entered the ballot for each individual property, confirmed that they:
 - a) still meet the KiwiBuild eligibility criteria
 - b) have access to sufficient financing to purchase the home and
 - c) understand the terms and conditions of the property as specified by the developer
5. Once the ballot period is closed and ballot entries confirmed, a KiwiBuild official initiates the draw process.


6. When the draw process is initiated, the system randomly selects a ballot winner from all of the confirmed unique ballot numbers. The draw process is performed for each KiwiBuild home separately.
7. The ballot system will only allow a unique application to win one ballot. To clarify, once a ballot number is marked as a winner, the system will remove all other ballot numbers associated with that application number.
8. The successful ballot winner might choose not to progress with the normal home buying sales and purchase process. In this case, the reason is recorded in the system by a KiwiBuild official and the system will randomly select the next winner from the remaining confirmed ballot entries.

An independent audit of the ballot system and surrounding business processes and internal controls will be completed by the end of November 2018.

Regarding the information received or produced on compliance with the Gambling Act 2004 or other legislation related to games of chance: Eligible KiwiBuild buyers do not pay any consideration to participate in the KiwiBuild ballot. Therefore, this process is not subject to the Gambling Act 2004 or similar legislation.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision to refuse your request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely



Brad Ward
Head of Office of the Chief Executive