



11 March 2022

DOIA21/22020694

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email dated 11 February 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

A: I request the number of Government housing initiatives (programmes that get families into homes) currently running in Kaitaia and the Far North.

B: I request a list of housing initiatives supported by the Government in Kaitaia and the Far North.

C: I request the number of families that have been assisted into homes (excl emergency housing) through Government housing programmes in Kaitaia and the Far North 01/01/20-01/01/22

D: I request the amount spent on both Government and Government supported initiatives 01/01/20-01/01/22

E: I request the number of families assisted into housing through housing initiatives supported by the Government in Kaitaia and the Far North 01/01/20-01/01/22

F: How many people are currently waiting for homes in Kaitaia and the Far North?

G: Does the Government have any exclusive housing plans for the Far North in the works?

H: How many families are currently on waitlists for housing, in each region, across the country.

On 11 and 15 February 2022, Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (the Ministry) emailed you seeking clarification regarding parts A, B, C, D, E and G of your request, to determine whether you were seeking information about programmes to support home ownership, or to address homelessness. As you did not respond to these emails, I have interpreted this request to encompass the entire housing and urban development programme.

I will respond to each part of your request in the order they are listed:

A: I request the number of Government housing initiatives (programmes that get families into homes) currently running in Kaitaia and the Far North.

The Ministry leads New Zealand's housing and urban development work programme. We are responsible for strategy, policy, funding, monitoring and regulation of New Zealand's housing and urban development system.

The Ministry works with central and local government agencies, the housing sector and communities across New Zealand to achieve the following outcomes across New Zealand:

- deliver more public housing, transitional housing, and services to tackle homelessness;
- improve housing affordability and supply;
- ensure warm, dry, healthy and safe rental housing;
- deliver and support urban development that creates vibrant, thriving and connected places where everyone can live affordably and access opportunity; and
- improve housing quality and choices for Māori and their whānau.

The Ministry publishes details of all the housing initiatives being undertaken by the Government as part of its housing and urban development work programme, including those available in Kaitaia and the Far North, on our website: www.hud.govt.nz.

B: I request a list of housing initiatives supported by the Government in Kaitaia and the Far North.

I refer you to my response to part A of your request.

C: I request the number of families that have been assisted into homes (excl'd emergency housing) through Government housing programmes in Kaitaia and the Far North 01/01/20-01/01/22

We track progress of key parts of the Government's housing programme in a Housing Dashboard. It shows the progress being made across the housing system and is updated monthly. It includes information on public and transitional housing, other housing built by the Government, the housing register and other housing support provided. You can view the Dashboard at www.hud.govt.nz/research-and-publications/statistics-and-research/the-government-housing-dashboard/.

D: I request the amount spent on both Government and Government supported initiatives 01/01/20-01/01/22

As you may be aware, information relating to budget allocations for the Vote Housing and Urban Development appropriation are published on the Treasury website each year. This details all new and existing spending

You can view the budget allocations for the period between 1 January 2020 and 1 January 2022 at:

- 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020: www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/estimates/vote-housing-and-urban-development-social-services-and-community-sector-estimates-2019-20
- 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021: www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/estimates/vote-housing-and-urban-development-social-services-and-community-sector-estimates-2020-21-html
- 1 July 2021 to 1 January 2022: www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/estimates/vote-housing-and-urban-development-social-services-and-community-sector-estimates-2021-22.

E: I request the number of families assisted into housing through housing initiatives supported by the Government in Kaitia and the Far North 01/01/20-01/01/22

I refer you to my response to part C of your request.

F: How many people are currently waiting for homes in Kaitia and the Far North?

You can also find the latest Housing Register statistics by visiting the Housing Dashboard. We also publish Public Housing quarterly reports and regional factsheets which also provide data on the Housing Register. You can find the most recent quarterly report at www.hud.govt.nz/assets/News-and-Resources/Statistics-and-Research/Public-housing-reports/Quarterly-reports/Public-housing-quarterly-report-September-2021.pdf, and the most recent factsheet for Northland at www.hud.govt.nz/assets/News-and-Resources/Statistics-and-Research/Public-housing-reports/Regional-factsheets-September-2021/Housing-regional-factsheets-September-2021-Northland.pdf.

G: Does the Government have any exclusive housing plans for the Far North in the works?

The Ministry is taking a deliberate, place-based approach to tackling New Zealand's housing and urban development challenges. This approach uses an understanding of places to inform how we work with communities.

This is because every community has their own housing and urban development challenges and opportunities and a 'one size fits all' approach will not work to address them. You can find our current active partnerships and learn more about how we partner with communities and places at www.hud.govt.nz/urban-development/place-based-approach/how-we-partner-in-communities-and-places/.

While our partnerships are currently limited to the 10 places listed on our website, the Government is delivering specific programmes and new public housing in other parts of the country as well. This is very different from the engagement in our partnership locations, which is broad and requires work with many stakeholders.

The Ministry is monitoring the housing and urban situation across the country and we will deepen engagement in places if we feel a different approach is needed.

You may be interested to learn that the Public Housing Plan 2021-2024 sets out the Government's public housing supply intentions for the next four years and provides information about the location and number of an additional 8,000 public and transitional housing places that will be delivered by June 2024.

The Public Housing Plan takes a deliberate, place-based and MAIHI (Māori and Iwi Housing Innovation Framework for Action) approach, collaborating with our partners in the community to develop and implement joined-up local solutions where the need for public housing is urgent.

Te Tai Tokerau has been identified as a priority area in the Public Housing Plan 2021-2024, with a high proportion of Māori in housing need. Supply is targeted towards Whangārei with some in the Far North where there is high housing deprivation. Work is underway to bring on further supply in all locations. You can find the Public Housing Plan 2021-2024 at www.hud.govt.nz/community-and-public-housing/increasing-public-housing/public-housing-plan/.

H: How many families are currently on waitlists for housing, in each region, across the country.

I refer you to my response to part F above.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

As part of our ongoing commitment to openness and transparency, the Ministry proactively releases information and documents that may be of interest to the public. As such, this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on our website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Trina Dyal".

Trina Dyal
General Manager – Te Hononga