



DOIA19/20060443

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

I refer to your email of 8 June 2020 to the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) about motels and caravan parks. On 22 June 2020, part of your request was transferred to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (the Ministry) for response:

- *How many motels and caravan parks does the Government own?*
- *How does this compare to previous years back to 2015?*

The Ministry works with Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities, community housing providers, developers, councils, and other agencies in order to increase the supply of transitional housing. Transitional housing provides warm, safe and dry short-term accommodation and tailored housing related support services. Families and individuals stay in transitional housing for around 12 weeks, or more if necessary. In most cases, they receive a further 12 weeks of support services once they have found a more permanent place to live.

The Ministry contracts with community providers and occasionally motels to provide warm, dry, short-term transitional housing for families and individuals who do not have anywhere to live. Support services are also provided, which are tailored to the household's needs, to help them secure a longer-term home and get back on their feet so that they are in a stronger position to stay housed. As such, the Ministry does not own motels nor caravans.

I can confirm that as at 30 June 2020, Kāinga Ora owns seven motels, the first purchased in the 2016/17 financial year. As such, in response to part two of your request, no motels were owned in 2015. Kāinga Ora does not own any caravan parks.

When Kāinga Ora purchase a motel, it is no longer used for motel purposes and instead is exclusively used for transitional housing. To do this, Kāinga Ora gets council approval (via a resource consent) to change the use of the facility, and often undertakes work on the buildings to make them suitable for longer term stays. For example, changes to the kitchens to make them more suitable for cooking meals, and fire safety improvements.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my 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](http://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, appearing to read 'Anne Shaw', with a stylized, cursive script.

Anne Shaw  
**Deputy Chief Executive**  
**Housing Supply, Response, and Partnership**