



HUD2022-000222

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email on 07 July 2022, jointly sent to the Ministry of Social Development, requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). The following parts of your request are being responded to in this letter:

- *How many hotels in Auckland have signalled to HUD that they would conclude or reduce their service providing transitional accommodation?*
- *How many hotel rooms in Auckland does HUD currently have people staying in?*
- *Which hotels in Auckland have been providing this service?*

On 14 July 2022 you refined your request to:

- *How many hotels/motels in Auckland have signalled to HUD that they would conclude or reduce their service providing transitional accommodation?*
- *How many hotel/motel rooms in Auckland does HUD currently have people staying in?*
- *Which hotels/motels in Auckland have been providing this service?*

There were **358** transitional housing motel places and **427** COVID response motel places in Auckland at 30 June 2022.

Transitional housing is temporary accommodation and support for individuals or families who are in urgent need of housing. It provides warm, dry, short-term housing for people and families who have an urgent need for a place to stay.

In addition to temporary accommodation, people in transitional housing are provided with support services to help them address their needs and move back into long-term accommodation.

It is intended that families and individuals stay in transitional housing for an average of around 12 weeks. They also receive a further 12 weeks of support once they have found a more permanent place to live.

Transitional housing is managed by accredited social service providers who are contracted by the Ministry to provide this service and are responsible for making sure the properties are warm, dry and well maintained. The majority of transitional housing places are houses or apartments. At 30 June 2022, there were 2,496 transitional housing places in Auckland.

Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga also contracts some motels for COVID-19 response accommodation. During the early stages of COVID-19 level 4 lockdown, there was a concerted effort from agencies to house people who were experiencing street homelessness or had no other place to live. The Government has committed to ensuring that people accommodated in motels do not need to return to homelessness and has provided funding for people to remain in motels with wrap around support services whilst longer-term accommodation is found.

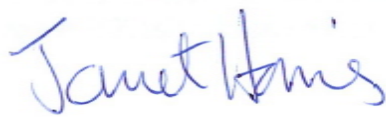
You have also asked which hotels/motels in Auckland have been providing transitional accommodation services. This information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the decision to withhold information under section 9 of the Act is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

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 at: 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



Janet Harris
Team Leader, Issues Management