



HUD2022-001437

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 9 December 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *Has HUD or any of its representatives ever recommended or directed an independent audit to be carried out into the charity Visions of a Helping Hand?*
- *If so, I'd like to know the details of that audit/s – which organisation carried it/them out, what the timeline was, and what it/they found*
- *If such an audit has been carried out, I'd like to see copies of all correspondence relevant to that audit. Correspondence includes but is not limited to: emails, texts, letters, online messages, notes from phone conversations, memos and briefings to ministers.*

Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development has not recommended or directed an independent audit of Visions of a Helping Hand. Therefore, I am refusing the remaining parts of your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the department and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department.

Housing providers must receive and maintain level three social services accreditation from Te Kāhui Kāhu to provide a range of housing support services including Contracted Emergency Housing and Transitional Housing support services. To maintain this accreditation, level three accredited providers are visited at least every two years by Te Kāhui Kāhu. Te Kāhui Kāhu has recently undertaken a review of Visions of a Helping Hand's Social Services Accreditation.

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

Aimee Edwards
Manager Contract Management