

21 September 2020

Aaron Packard
Renters United Organiser
via email: fyi-request-13761-75a63c5f@requests.fyi.org.nz

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT REQUEST

Thank you for your request received on Thursday 10 September 2020, for the following information:

- 1. In the past five years, how many times has the Council used their rights under the Public Health Act to inspect rental housing properties?*
- 2. In the past five years, how many times has the Council exercised its powers to issue a repair or closure notice to landlords whose properties do not meet the Housing Improvement Regulations?*
- 3. How do you identify which rental housing properties to inspect under the Public Health Act?*
- 4. What is the process for tenants to request the Council inspect their rental housing property under the Public Health Act and provide a written report on its condition?*
- 5. What information is available on your website or in your publications on rental housing inspections provided by the Council?*
- 6. What is your process for engaging with the Tenancy Tribunal to provide reports on the rental housing inspections you conduct?*

Please find below information relevant to your request, which we have released under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

1. Carterton District Council have not used the Public Health Act for rental inspections in the past 5 years.
2. In the past 5 five years, we have not used the Housing Improvement Regulations as a tool to investigate substandard housing.
3. Any inspections required have been instigated from public complaints.
4. We are unable to locate this requirement in the Health Act (1956) nor in the Housing Improvement Regulations (1947). Could you please provide more detail on these requirements?
5. None

6. There are no current processes however we would work with the Tribunal if requested to do so.

In addition to your request, in the last five years Council has not used the Public Health Act to inspect rental housing but has done so under the Building Act 2004 and issued a dangerous or insanitary notice (section 124 of the BA 2004) on a rented dwelling.

You have the right to seek a review of our response/these decisions by way of complaint to the Ombudsman, under section 27(3) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Yours sincerely

Jane Davis
Chief Executive



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