



21 JUL 2021

Hamish

[fyi-request-15861-7c1c272f@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-15861-7c1c272f@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Hamish

On 22 June 2021, you emailed the Office of Hon Megan Woods, Minister for Housing, requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Please release all official information into considerations you make and criteria that you use when selecting a motel or other similar type of accommodation for emergency housing.*
- *I would like to know any and all of the considerations/criteria but particularly if proximity to KFC and other such fast food establishments is one of them.*

On 23 June 2021, your request was transferred to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) from the Office of Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development to respond.

The Ministry's staff work with clients to identify the most suitable emergency accommodation option for them. Discussions centre around what the household requires and the individual circumstances of the client, e.g. proximity to schools and early childhood facilities for families with children, transport hubs for those working, and community-based services for those who require additional support. Staff may also take practical steps to help with the process of finding emergency accommodation, such as ringing around accommodation options to find one that is suitable and available. Whilst proximity to supermarkets and services is considered, KFC and fast-food establishments are not a priority consideration for the Ministry in supporting clients to secure accommodation.

The Ministry has not found any documents in scope of your request. Your request for this information is refused in full under section 18(e) of the Act as this information does not exist.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding official information into considerations the Ministry makes and criteria that the Ministry uses when selecting a motel or other similar type of accommodation for emergency housing, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



 Karen Hocking  
**General Manager**  
**Housing**