

# Hon Dr Megan Woods

MP for Wigram

Minister of Housing

Minister of Energy and Resources

Minister of Research, Science and Innovation

Associate Minister of Finance



Richard Grant

[fyi-request-17782-4062a7c1@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-17782-4062a7c1@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Richard

I refer to your official information request dated 1 December 2021 for:

“Under the guidance for public sector workplaces on the business.govt.nz website (<https://www.business.govt.nz/covid-19/covid-19-protection-framework/services/>) in “red” regions “Workplaces are open with working from home encouraged if appropriate to the workplace”. This request for information relates to how agencies are treating staff who are located in “red” regions and who are able to work adequately from home. Please can you advise which of the agencies for which you are responsible (including Crown Research Institutes) are encouraging such staff to work from home, and which are not?”

Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development will operate in the following conditions under each different traffic light:

- **Work at Red:** People are strongly encouraged to work from home and only work from the office by exception. No visitors are permitted.
- **Work at Orange:** Offices are open – with some caution to ensure 1 metre distancing. Consider alternative arrangements for visitors.
- **Work at Green:** Offices are open – no restrictions on workplace access.

Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities also follows the COVID-19 Protection Framework guidance. Kāinga Ora staff in regions that are under the “red” setting of the COVID-19 Protection Framework are encouraged to work from home. I have included an internal Kāinga Ora document which provides information on this policy.

The Government continues to refine how it is applying the new system, so we will adapt as we go. We will ensure we keep aligned to Government and public service expectations to keep everyone safe at work.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Woods'.

Hon Dr Megan Woods  
**Minister of Housing**