



20 December 2024

Tēnā koe Chris McCashin,

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your request of 12 December 2024, requesting information on the number of unlawful persons in state housing or receiving benefits, and the amount paid in benefits to citizens born to non-citizens. I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

- *Numbers of unlawful persons in state housing or receiving Government benefits*

There are no clients unlawfully receiving a main benefit or in social housing as per the requirements outlining that clients must meet the residency requirements. Please find more information through the links below:

- www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2018/0032/latest/DLM6783143.html.
- www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/social-housing/assessment-of-eligibility/qualifications.html
- *Amount paid in benefits to New Zealand citizen children born to non-citizen parents*

I am refusing your request under section 18(g) of the Act as the information you had requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is either held by or closely connected to the functions of another department, Minister of the Crown or organisation. The Ministry does not collect information regarding the residency status of parents of clients receiving a benefit.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, 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 or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

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Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services