

27 MAR 2019

Miles Stratford  
[fyi-request-9184-6802db19@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-9184-6802db19@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Miles

Thank you for your email dated 25 February 2019 in which you have asked Housing New Zealand to:

*'In your answer to the second question you have noted tenancies were ended where thresholds of the time were exceeded. You have also advised that the individual with the tenancy agreement was responsible for the contamination, either directly or indirectly, and held that individual accountable by ending their tenancy.'*

*This advice indicates that ALL tenants who found themselves in this position were held accountable. Other advice from people who had experience of the Housing New Zealand Policy, indicated that where there was no evidence of responsibility on the part of the tenants who were occupying the house at the time meth residues were identified, those tenants were compensated as a result of being placed in an environment where meth residues were present that exceeded the thresholds of the time.*

*Please confirm that ALL tenants who found themselves in property where historic thresholds were exceeded, had their tenancies terminated and were held accountable for the costs associated with addressing the meth residue issues which were identified'.*

Housing New Zealand has, in previous responses to your information requests referred you to publicly available information on its website, which explains its historical approach to dealing with methamphetamine contamination in its homes. This includes its report titled '*Methamphetamine Contamination Housing New Zealand response 2018 (Meth report)*'. As well as copies of key documents relating to its old methamphetamine contamination approach, the Meth report outlines the different approaches used by Housing New Zealand from July 2013 to May 2018, when it adopted Sir Peter Gluckman's recommendations (Government's Chief Scientist). The Meth report also comments on the number of properties that were tested over this five year period, and the consequences for those living in the homes where methamphetamine levels were higher than the thresholds of the policy at that time.

The information you have asked for can be found within Part Two of the Meth report, and throughout the other documents that were published on Housing New Zealand's website late last year.

As you are able to access this information yourself, I am refusing your request under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act as '*the information requested is publicly available*' at the following link [www.hnzc.co.nz/publications/methamphetamine-contamination-response/](http://www.hnzc.co.nz/publications/methamphetamine-contamination-response/).

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



**Rachel Kelly**  
Manager, Government Relations