

The Treasury

Social Housing Reform Programme Information Release

Release Document

October 2016

<http://www.socialhousing.govt.nz>

Key to sections of the Official Information Act 1982 under which information has been withheld.

Certain information in this document has been withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- [1] 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people
- [2] 9(2)(b)(ii) - to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information or who is the subject of the information
- [3] 9(2)(ba)(i) - to prevent prejudice to the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.
- [4] 9(2)(d) - to avoid prejudice to the substantial economic interests of New Zealand
- [5] 9(2)(f)(iv) - to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by ministers and officials
- [6] 9(2)(g)(i) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions
- [7] 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege
- [8] 9(2)(i) - to enable the Crown to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage or prejudice
- [9] 9(2)(j) - to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice
- [10] 9(2)(k) - to prevent the disclosure of official information for improper gain or improper advantage
- [11] Not relevant

Where information has been withheld, a numbered reference to the applicable section of the Official Information Act has been made, as listed above. For example, an [1] appearing where information has been withheld in a release document refers to section 9(2)(a).

In preparing this Information Release, the Treasury has considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

Modular housing proposals

Relevant extract from Ministry of Social Development memo
“Next steps on initiatives from Social Housing Cabinet paper” to
the office of the Minister for Social Housing – 6 July 2016

Modular homes can be used to rehouse tenants during HNZ rebuilds and for social housing clients on the register

- HNZ is in negotiations for three sites that have capacity to develop 143 modular homes in 2017. The management and use of those modular properties could include emergency housing, rehousing social housing tenants during HNZ rebuilds or housing new clients from the social housing register.

MSD recommends that the modular homes are prioritised to rehouse social housing tenants during HNZ rebuilds and for social housing clients on the register

- MSD is actively increasing the capacity for emergency housing supply through the block booking of 60 motel beds, an RFP seeking approximately 800 emergency housing places at any given time and a new Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant to meet the cost of accommodation for up to 7 days for families unable to access a place contracted by MSD.
- MSD considers that the range of initiatives underway and ^{Active Consideration section 9(2)(f)(iv)} are best suited to meeting emergency housing demand. The ability to transfer households out of emergency housing and into social housing will then depend on the availability of social housing. Using the modular homes for social housing will help relieve pressure for overstaying in the emergency housing sector.

*The modular housing is appropriate for rehousing existing tenants from
HNZ redevelopments scheduled for 2017 – 2019*

9(2)(f)(iv) (active consideration), 9(2)(i) (to enable commercial activities) and 9(2)(j) (to enable negotiations)

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The 143 forecast modular homes that could be delivered in 2017 are nearby to ^{9(2)(f)(iv) (active consideration), 9(2)(i) (to enable commercial activities) and 9(2)(j) (to enable negotiations)} which provides an ideal alternative for rehousing tenants as it would allow tenants to retain links with their local community.

- The typology of the modular housing sites will depend on planning constraints and could be influenced by the needs for rehousing. There are ^{9(2)(f)(iv) (active consideration), 9(2)(i) (to enable commercial activities) and 9(2)(j) (to enable negotiations)} who will require 4+ bedrooms and these are economically challenging to find. The modular housing development could provide an opportunity to meet some of the need for larger properties.
- The rehousing requirements are unlikely to require the full capacity of the modular housing sites in 2017. Some of the modular housing capacity can be used to house new clients from the Register. The modular homes can be used for rehousing and meeting demand from the Register based on the most appropriate match.

Active consideration 9(2)(f)(iv)

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