

16 August 2023

s9(2)(a)



Thank you for your email of 11 July 2023 to Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*For each of the last complete 10 years, please provide a breakdown of:*

- *How many existing Kāinga Ora tenants had a change of income during the year that caused them to exceed the income threshold to qualify for social housing.*

*Of those:*

- *How many tenants retained their tenancy for up to 6 months, 6-12 months, longer than 12 months, while exceeding the income threshold that qualifies for social housing.*
- *How many tenants had their tenancy ended due to their income exceeding the threshold to qualify for social housing, and what was the average time from the change of income to the ending of the tenancy for those tenants.*

On 19 July 2023 parts one and two of your request were transferred to the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act as these are “more closely connected with the functions of another department”. MSD is responsible for assessing eligibility for public housing tenants. My response covers part three of your request.

It might be helpful to explain that MSD can conduct tenancy reviews to ensure that public housing tenants remain eligible for housing. Part of the purpose of the review is to ensure that tenants meet income eligibility requirements. Kāinga Ora records the number of tenants moved as a result of the tenancy review process, and this is listed in the table below. Please note that tenancy reviews are currently on hold due to COVID-19. No tenancies were ended outside the period 2015-2017 as the result of a tenancy review.

**Kāinga Ora (formerly Housing New Zealand) tenancies ended through MSD tenancy reviews**

Year	Tenancies ended
2015	30
2016	153
2017	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>223</b>

Note: 30 tenants moved before they were given formal notice that their tenancies were ending.

Kāinga Ora does not hold information relating to the average time from the tenant's change of income to the time the tenancy was ended. Therefore, I am declining this part of your request under section 18(g) of the Act as the information is not held.

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

Please note that Kāinga Ora proactively releases our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request may be published at <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/publications/official-information-requests/> with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gabby Boag', with a large loop at the end of the signature.

Gabby Boag  
**Team Leader Government Relations**