

7 December 2021

s9(2)(a)



Thank you for your email of 11 November 2021, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act (the Act):

“how much Kainga Ora paid for 21 and 23 City Rd, Dunedin.

In addition, how much is Kainga Ora budgeting to have these properties fit for service, and how many people are expected to live there”.

Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities purchased the nine homes at 21-23 City Road for \$6,750,000 (including GST), which is in line with market valuations received and in line with our acquisition policy.

The purchase is part of Government’s delivery of more public housing to meet increasing need in our communities. The homes will be used to meet urgent need for transitional housing in the city.

These homes will provide people and families in urgent need of housing with a warm, dry, safe place to live, while they receive wraparound support services and are helped to find a more permanent place to live. The people and families staying there may already be living, working or going to school locally. Others will be from nearby areas or districts.

The homes and tenancies will be managed by Emerge Aotearoa, who have extensive experience in managing transitional housing. They will make sure people and families living here are looked after, and also be available ongoing as a point of contact for residents and the community.

The property settlement was completed on 29 of October 2021. Over coming weeks, contractors will carry out maintenance work. This work includes ensuring that the building is up to fire code, any existing damage is repaired and that the building is weathertight to ensure the homes are suitably warm, dry and safe for people and families to stay in. The cost will come out of the overall budget allocations for maintenance and our Healthy Homes programme; however, the cost will not be known until the work is completed.

New occupants are not expected to move in until after 10 January 2022. It is uncertain at this time how many people will live in these homes until they are occupied. The number of occupants will vary as households come and go.

Therefore, I am refusing the second part of your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as Kāinga Ora does not hold this information.

You have the right under section 28(3) to seek an investigation by the Ombudsman about the decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at either 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 that reads "Rachel Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rachel Kelly
Manager Government Relations