

21 July 2021

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Thank you for your email of 24 June 2021 in which you ask five questions concerning Kāinga Ora-Homes and Communities' contractors. Four of your questions have been responded to by our communications team. The following question was considered as an Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request:

*Has Kāinga Ora uncovered any cases of breaches of employment law in the past three years? If yes, what happened when those cases were uncovered?*

I understand that you clarified with Quentin Bright, Senior Media Advisor that your request specifically relates to contractors on Kāinga Ora building sites and any breaches of employment law.

Kāinga Ora holds no record of it uncovering any breaches of employment law relating to contractors on its building sites. It is not the role of Kāinga Ora (and formerly Housing New Zealand) to investigate such breaches. If Kāinga Ora discovered or was made aware of any potential breaches it would immediately hand this information over to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, being the appropriate authority. We have no record of any such referrals over the last three years.

Kāinga Ora design and build contracts require suppliers to comply with all relevant legislation and will now include express reference to the Employment Relations Act and Immigration Act. These are currently being progressively rolled out as existing contracts have variations added and new contracts are signed.

Our preference is to work with partners and suppliers collaboratively to deliver better labour management practices across the residential construction and development sector and to ensure that our sites support workers who may be aware of substandard practices in the sector, so that issues can be addressed and resolved.

Employment New Zealand manages and publishes the list of employers who have breached employment standards. These businesses face a set stand-down period relating to visa applications for migrant workers. Employers, while on the stand-down list, are not eligible to work with Kāinga Ora.

Yours sincerely



**Patrick Dougherty**  
General Manager Construction and Innovation