

16 May 2024

s 9(2)(a)
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Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your request to Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities, dated 18 April 2024, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) for the following information:

- 1. number of CEA issued to owners in support service pilot and to owners not in support service pilot, and how many buildings were involved (assume could be multiple owners in one building)*
- 2. number of expressions of interest received this year*
- 3. number of expressions of interest where there is ongoing/active engagement*
- 4. total number of expressions of interest*

You also asked some clarification questions, which the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment will answer.

In relation to the first part of your request, I can advise that 65 Conditional Eligibility Approval (CEA) applications were approved, seven for buildings that were part of the Earthquake Prone Building (EPB) Support Service pilot, and 58 for buildings that were not part of the pilot. Applications were received from owners in eight different buildings – seven in Wellington and one in Wairarapa.

In relation to the second part of your request, Kāinga Ora has received one Expression of Interest this year. Kāinga Ora received no new CEA applications this year. It is important to note that the Expression of Interest (EOI) process was simply a mechanism for interested parties to get in touch with Kāinga Ora to discuss their situation in relation to the Residential Earthquake-Prone Building Financial Assistance Scheme (REPBFAS). Some EOIs result in CEA applications, but others do not. Many CEA applications were received from people that did not contact Kāinga Ora through the EOI process.

In relation to the third part of your request, we have interpreted your request as being for the number of applications where there was ongoing/active engagement. Kāinga Ora received 79 CEA applications. Of those, two were declined. Of the remainder, four applications have expired where Kāinga Ora was aware that the applicants would not be pursuing a loan application. Of the remaining 73 applications, 62 had been approved with 11 still in the assessment process at the date the scheme was closed. Of those, it is not entirely clear how many would have pursued a loan application. Kāinga Ora is aware of two instances where the applicant passed away during the application process, and another three CEAs where the applicant subsequently found an alternate source of funding.

In relation to the fourth part of your request, Kāinga Ora received 46 EOIs. As per the comment above, not all CEA applications resulted from an EOI.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision on your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that Kāinga Ora proactively releases its 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.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rachel Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rachel Kelly
Government Relations