

5 December 2023

s9(2)(a)



Thank you for your email of 7 November 2023 to Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *All complaints related to 8 Poole Street, Lower Hutt from January to November 2023.*
2. *Internal communications that reference 8 Poole Street, Lower Hutt, in that timeframe.*
3. *Communications with other Government agencies that reference 8 Poole Street, Lower Hutt in that timeframe.*
4. *A copy of any flat inspections made in that timeframe.*
5. *A total amount spent on any repairs, and details of any damage.*

As you may be aware, the Police are treating the death of the child at the Kāinga Ora property as a homicide.

I have therefore decided to withhold information relating to questions 1, 4 and 5 in full under sections 6(c) of the Act as making the information available would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial, and section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

An initial search of our archives revealed approximately 1,000 emails potentially in scope of questions 2 and 3. I have decided to withhold the information relating to these questions in part, under section 6(c) and 9(2)(a) of the Act as detailed above. For the balance of the information, I have decided to refuse these requests in part under section 18(f) of the Act, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

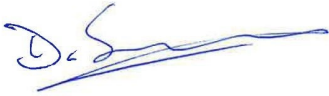
In accordance with section 18A and 18B of the Act, we have considered that consulting you, extending the timeframe for a response, or charging for the information would not remove the need to refuse these requests.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest pursuant to section 9(1) of the Act. I do not consider the public interest in making the information available outweighs the reasons for withholding the information.

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, appearing to read 'D. Soughtton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel Soughtton
Deputy Chief Executive - Central