

## 4 May 2022



Thank you for your email of 29 March 2022 to the Ministry of Social Development requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- the number of tenants that have been given eviction notices in the past five vears.
- the national number and could that please also be broken down into years -2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018?
- Could I please get that broken down into regions?
- What are the reasons for the evictions?
- What is the procedure of an eviction notice?

On 4 April 2022 your request was transferred to Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities to answer your questions as they relate to state housing. I understand that your request was also transferred to Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga - Ministry of Housing and Urban Development as it relates to Community Housing Providers.

Kāinga Ora is committed to supporting its customers to sustain their tenancies wherever possible. Where issues cannot be resolved, we can, and do, relocate customers to a suitable alternative Kāinga Ora home if possible. This involves careful consideration of the destabilising impacts a move could have for the customer and their family, alongside putting support measures in place in the new home, where needed.

While Kāinga Ora has the legal right to end a tenancy, this is not a step it takes lightly because it can result in worse long-term outcomes for the customer, their families, and those around them. This may include moving away from support networks of friends and whānau, and uprooting children from education.

Eviction is a very specific process (separate to the relocation mentioned above) that involves the Tenancy Tribunal ending a tenancy and a court bailiff taking possession of the property, the process of which is outlined in the Residential Tenancies Act 1986. In 2018 there was one eviction of a state housing customer in Auckland due to fraud. There have been no other evictions in 2019-2022 to date.

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 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

 $\underline{\text{https://kaingaora.govt.nz/publications/official-information-requests/}} \text{ with your personal information removed.}$ 

Yours sincerely

Rachel Kelly Manager Government Relations