

16 November 2020

Andrew Perry  
[fyi-request-13989-e7f3c30a@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-13989-e7f3c30a@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Perry

### Rental Warrant of Fitness

Thank you for your request made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act), received on 15 October 2020. You have requested the following information:

- Is there any record of how many council owned residences have passed the Rental Warrant of Fitness (RWOFF)?

Wellington City Council (the Council) has **refused** your request.

The RWOFF was developed in partnership by the Council and the University of Otago and was [launched in August 2017](#). The aim of the RWOFF was to ensure that all rental homes were warm, safe and dry. Ultimately, the Council hoped the RWOFF scheme, or one similar, would be adopted by the Government.

Shortly after the scheme was launched, the new Government made swift progress on the [Healthy Homes](#) Guarantees Bill. These became the Healthy Homes Standards, which is compulsory and enforceable nationwide. These standards closely met several standards contained in the RWOFF. These standards, along with the legal requirements for all homes, are to have insulation installed (where possible) and smoke alarms installed. A decision was made to pause the promotion of the RWOFF as the Council did not want to duplicate what would ultimately become legal and statutory requirements.

As a result of the changes to the Government, and the introduction of the Healthy Homes Standards described above, no Council owned properties were assessed against the RWOFF. As such the Council does not have any records. Under section 17(g) of the Act this part of your request has been refused as the information is not held by the local authority.

The Council is currently working towards the 1 July 2021 deadline – the date from which all new tenancies must comply with the Healthy Homes Standards. All Tenancy Agreements will provide tenants with information on how the property meet these standards.

**Right of review**

If you are not satisfied with the Council's response, you may choose to make a complaint with the Office of the Ombudsman. Further information is available on the Ombudsman website, [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Thank you again for your request. I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Asha Harry', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

Asha Harry  
**Assurance Advisor**