



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

16 DEC 2015

Ms Bronwyn Drysdale
Individual

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Dear Ms Drysdale

On 24 and 25 November 2015 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, information concerning pregnant women under the age of 25 years who presented at hospitals with a history of involvement with Child, Youth and Family and a series of questions about emergency housing applications from pregnant women aged less than 25 years.

On 25 November 2015, the Ministry of Justice transferred your request for information about the number of young women aged less than 25 years who were pregnant or had a child aged under five, who were involved with the Youth Justice System.

As you are aware several of your questions concerning pregnant women and District Health Boards have been transferred to the relevant District Health Boards who will respond directly to you.

Unfortunately I am unable to provide you with the number of young women under the age of 25 who had their babies removed from their care within two years for the domicile areas of Capital Coast, Hutt Valley, and Wairarapa District Health Boards. Your question is very specific and the Ministry's reporting systems are not configured in a way that allows us to provide the data you have requested. As such this part of request is refused under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act as this information does not exist.

However I can provide you with the number of children who are under two years of age and are in an out of home placement.

The table below shows the number of children under two years of age in out of home placement in CYF sites that align with the Wairarapa, Hutt Valley and Capital and Coast District Health Boards as at 30 June 2015.

Child, Youth and Family sites that align with District Health Boards	Out of home placements
Wairarapa	S
Hutt Valley	10
Capital Coast	17

Please note 'S' represents a suppressed cell to protect clients' privacy. Data is reported according to Child, Youth and Family sites that have been "mapped" against DHB area boundaries for this query. Due to differences in boundaries, there will be areas within any Child, Youth and Family site that actually fall within a different DHB's boundary.

You have asked for the following information:

- *How many women under the age of 25, who are pregnant at time of application or have at least one child under the age of one: have applied for emergency housing through either the City Council or Housing New Zealand in the greater Wellington region (domicile area of the three DHBs), each year between 2010 and 2015?*
- *How many women under the age of 25, who are pregnant at time of application or have at least one child under the age of one have accessed emergency refuges in the greater Wellington region, each year between 2010 and 2015?*
- *How many women were excluded from these services, and on what grounds (e.g. age, drug or alcohol issues or mental health issues)?*
- *Where are young women excluded from these services referred to, if anywhere?*
- *How many women in the greater Wellington region, in the time period: years 2010-2014, who were aged 25 or under, were either imprisoned or involved with the Youth Justice system, and also documented as pregnant and / or registered as parents of a child/ children under the age of five?*

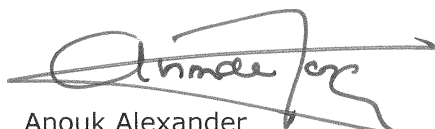
Unfortunately the type of information you are requesting, if it is held by Ministry, would be recorded on individual notes in case files. However the majority of the information you have requested is not captured or the Ministry is not required to hold this type of information. As such I am refusing your request for this information under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act on the grounds " *That the information requested is not held by department, Minister of the Crown or organisation and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is either:*

- Held by another Department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or local authority*
- Connected more closely with the functions of another Department or Minister of the Crown or organisation or of a local authority."*

I am sorry I could not be more helpful in this instance. You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10-152
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely



Anouk Alexander
Acting Deputy Chief Executive, Organisational Strategy