

3 February 2020

Ashleigh McCaull

Via email: ashleighmccaull@mediaworks.co.nz

Dear Ashleigh

Response to official information request for housing in Porirua

I refer to your request for official information received 30 January 2020 relating to housing in Porirua. We have processed your request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) 1987.

The information you requested is enclosed. The questions you specified have been included as numbered headings in bold below, with our response following each heading.

1. How many homes around Porirua remain vacant?

- Porirua City Council does not collect this data. However Census 2018 has some data on dwelling occupancy status for private and non-private dwellings that can be found on our ID Porirua Community Profile <https://profile.idnz.co.nz/greater-wellington/dwellings?WebID=140>

2. How many homes around Porirua have been vacant in the last 5 years?

- Porirua City Council does not collect this data. The previous census will provide some information re unoccupied dwellings in 2013. This data is held by Statistics NZ.

3. What are the reasons behind these homes being vacant?

- Porirua City Council doesn't collect this data. Contact HNZ for information on vacancies related to their housing stock. They are likely to hold figures on the number of houses that are empty because they are being, decontaminated, refurbished or redeveloped. Sometimes there is also a mismatch between the housing stock and applicants. For example a surplus of three bedroom homes and an undersupply in 1-2 bedroom homes and 4 bedroom plus homes.

4. How many evictions notices have been handed out in Porirua in the last year?

- Porirua City Council doesn't collect this data. Contact HNZ for information on evictions related to their housing stock. Tenancy Services may be able to provide data how numbers of notices given to end a tenancy under the Residential Tenancies Act. The Tenancy Tribunal may also hold information if a dispute was brought before the tribunal and resulted in an eviction.

5. What were the reasons behind these evictions?

- Porirua City Council does not collect this data. You would need to request this information from the agencies with eviction powers.

6. *The quarterly report from September 2019 shows 270 people around Porirua are on the housing register, what are the current numbers now?*

- This data is derived from MSD's Housing Register. Please contact MSD for more recent statistics. The register is updated quarterly. <https://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/housing/index.html>

7. *How much does it cost to maintain each vacant home around Porirua?*

- Porirua City Council does not collect this data. It is unlikely that any agency can answer this question.

8. *How many people are reported as homeless in Porirua?*

- Porirua City Council does not collect this data. There is no official data source on homelessness levels in Porirua or in New Zealand. We received 2-3 complaints from the public last year related to homeless people in the CBD. There have been no recent complaints.

9. *Who owns these vacant homes around Porirua?*

- Some vacant homes are owned by HNZ. The Council doesn't hold data on vacant private homes.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Anne Kelly, anne.kelly@porirucity.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi



Wendy Walker
Chief Executive
Kaiwhakahaere Matua