

11 December 2020



Thank you for your email of 9 December 2020 to Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

"How many applications have been granted for First Home Buyer grants for purchases in Wellington (capped at 500k) in the last 12 months (2020). How many people have been able to make use of the scheme?"

There are two price caps for First Home Grants. In Wellington, if you are purchasing an existing home, the cap is set at \$500,000. For a new home, the cap is set at \$550,000. Information about the number of First Home Grants paid, broken down by purchases of existing and new homes, is available in the Kāinga Ora Financial Products Quarterly Reports, which are published on the Kāinga Ora website at https://kaingaora.govt.nz/publications/financial-products-quarterly-report/. Therefore, I am declining your request under section (18)(d) of the Act as the information is publicly available

If you would like more information on First Home Grants, including eligibility criteria and how to apply, please visit https://kaingaora.govt.nz/home-ownership/first-home-grant/. You can also find information about other ways to help you purchase a home, such as the First Home Loan and KiwiSaver first-home withdrawal, at https://kaingaora.govt.nz/home-ownership/.

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.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Kelly

Manager Government Relations