

9(2)(a)

13 February 2026

Dear 9(2)(a)

Re: Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your email on 23 January 2026 in which you requested information under the Official Information Act 1982.

You requested information relating to the use of SuperGold Card-related programmes or entitlements to support insulation or energy efficiency upgrades at Summerset retirement villages. The full wording of your request is attached as Appendix 1.

Over 2025, EECA provided eligible residents within both the Havelock North and Whanganui Summerset retirement villages with grant funding to subsidise the cost of installing retrofitted insulation through our Warmer Kiwi Homes (WKH) programme. These payments occurred between 3 February and 5 September 2025.

The total value of grant funding applied for by eligible residents over this period, and subsequently claimed and paid to the participating approved WKH service provider, equates to a total value of \$140,857 (excluding GST).

Based on the addresses you provided, a breakdown of the individual grants for eligible residents over 2025 can be found in the attached spreadsheet.

These residents were all located within an eligible decile area, as defined by the government's deprivation index (derived from Statistics NZ census data) and some also were Community Services and SuperGold Card Combo card holders.

A retirement village-related business is not eligible for grants under the Warmer Kiwi Homes programme and eligibility also excludes households that are subject to the Residential Tenancies Act, i.e. rental properties. However, residents that hold a Licence to Occupy individual units within the retirement village can be eligible if:

- The home was built before 2008,
- The home is located within an eligible deprivation zone, or
- The resident holds a current Community Services Card or Super Gold Combo Card.

The Ministry of Social Development determines the eligibility criteria for Community Services and Super Gold Combo cards. EECA does not hold information on any other discounts, or subsidies associated with the SuperGold Card that may have been provided to residents of these retirement villages as these are administered, funded, or overseen by the Ministry of Social Development.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly at <https://www.eeca.govt.nz/about/news-and-corporate/official-information/> with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely



Murray Bell
Group Manager, Policy and Regulation

Appendix 1: Your Official Information Act Request

“Specifically the Summerset villages located in Havelock North and Whanganui, during the 2025 calendar or financial year.

1. *Confirmation of whether residents of the Summerset retirement villages in Havelock North or Whanganui accessed insulation, heating, or energy efficiency upgrades during 2025 through programmes, discounts, or subsidies associated with the SuperGold Card and administered, funded, or overseen by the Ministry of Social Development.*
2. *For any such support provided, please supply:*
 - *The nature of the programme or entitlement used*
 - *The total value of public funding or subsidy applied*
 - *The date(s) the funding or subsidy was approved and applied*
 - *Whether the funding or subsidy was paid directly to Summerset, a contractor, or applied indirectly through a third-party provider*
3. *The eligibility criteria used by MSD when approving or enabling SuperGold Card–related support for insulation or energy efficiency upgrades, including:*
 - *Whether retirement village units are eligible*
 - *Whether exemptions from the Healthy Homes Standards under the Retirement Villages Act 2003 are relevant to eligibility*
 - *Whether the ownership or occupancy structure of retirement village units (for example, licence to occupy arrangements) is taken into account*

Where possible, I request the information be provided in PDF format. If any information is withheld, please specify the grounds for refusal under the Act and release any material that can be reasonably separated.”