

7 October 2021

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

### Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your email of 12 September 2021 requesting information regarding the Social Wellbeing Agency's current carbon zero policy. A copy of the text in your email request is attached.

In line with the Government's Carbon Neutral Programme, the Social Wellbeing Agency is working towards reducing its carbon emissions and becoming carbon neutral by 2025. To achieve this, we participate in the All-of-Government Sustainability Network and the Ministry of Social Development's internal Carbon Neutral Government Programme working group.

In response to the questions posed in your request, I can provide the following information:

- We do not currently have a policy in place for zero carbon use by 2025;
- Due to our small size (less than 40 people), we do not have an advisory committee dedicated to zero carbon neutrality;
- As there is no policy in place for zero carbon use, we have not set any priorities for work in this area;
- We do not currently have gross emission reduction targets. As baseline data carbon emissions reporting is still being collected, we do not expect to have gross emission reduction targets ready until 30 June 2022.

We have started to engage an external organisation to help us in our journey to reduce our carbon emissions.

If you are not satisfied with this response to your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information on how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, will be proactively published on our website 30 days from today.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Josh Logan  
**Advisor – Office of the Chief Executive**

**Attachment: Copy of Official Information Act Request (dated 12 September 2021)**

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To the Chief Executive in Charge, Renee Graham of Social Wellbeing Agency,

I write to you on behalf of the Public Sector Carbon Neutrality Accountability project. This project seeks to ascertain at what stage the Social Wellbeing Agency is in transitioning to becoming carbon neutral by 2025.

I write to you under the Official Information Act and **request** the following information:

- Is there a current policy in your organisation for zero-carbon use by 2025? If so, is there an official wording for it?
- Do you have an advisory committee dedicated to zero-carbon neutrality?
  - If so, how much staff is dedicated to the committee?
- What are your main priorities for zero-carbon use?
- What are your current gross emission reduction targets?

If you have any questions about my request - please do not hesitate to contact me.

Ngā mihi,

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