

 Email

From: [Cassandra Rivers](#)  
To: [EXT Nicola Grigg](#)  
CC: [Glenn Conway](#)  
Subject: FW: quick question

Sent: 4/08/2016 10:31:25 AM



Hi Nicola – thanks for your earlier email re: morning report which I think Glenn has responded to already. Just to keep you in the loop, here is some messaging I sent to Matt earlier that he asked for in relation to the issue.

Cass

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**From:** Cassandra Rivers  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 August 2016 9:56 a.m.  
**To:** EXT Matt Burgess  
**Cc:** Glenn Conway; Bryony Hillless  
**Subject:** RE: quick question

Hi Matt

It's difficult to find details of a property that we would have sold in 2012, and find out if we thought it might have been contaminated or not. However – we have some messaging below if Minister is asked about this particular property, and below that, some general messaging which I hope helps (and also this private tenant has been in media before, sounds like she's not an easy one – take a look at links to stories below that):

#### TAURANGA PROPERTY

- In 2012 methamphetamine was not an issue at the level it is now. At that time HNZ had very few methamphetamine contaminated properties.
- The issue of methamphetamine at the time was in relation to manufacture (P labs) – a totally different situation from what we have now, four years later. The signs would have been very clear if this was the case.
- We would never have knowingly sold a property that was methamphetamine contaminated and would have known at that particularly time if this was the case.

#### GENERAL ABOUT METH AND THE CURRENT STANDARD

- We agree that the guidelines need to be reviewed. The Ministry of Health guidelines were written a while ago.
- At that time it wasn't perceived that consumption would be at the levels that it has reached. For this reason the guidelines do not cover all they need to. They were written to address meth 'cooking' and not use, meaning they are not entirely suitable for the contamination that occurs through use of meth.
- As the country's largest landlord Housing NZ is actively involved in reviewing the guidelines. It has already sought the views of experts like Dr Kim, and have undertaken our own international review of other guidelines and standards employed by other countries.
- Also, in May, the New Zealand Standards Approval Board gave the New Zealand Standards Committee the thumbs up to develop a standard (NZS 8510) that will cover testing and remediation of properties contaminated by the manufacture or use of meth. HNZ is part of this committee and

see it as a really important piece of work. It will benefit HNZ, private owners, tenants and New Zealanders in general. We need clear, simple standards that are easily interpreted and implemented.

- We believe that as a result of this activity it will be highly-likely that the guidelines will change.
- **However at the present time, and as a responsible landlord that looks after some of the country's most vulnerable people we will continue to take a conservative approach to ensure the health and safety of our tenants. That is to never house someone in a property that is currently considered to be contaminated over the Ministry of Health's guidelines.**

And as per my comment above about the particular tenant – it sounds like she's a difficult tenant, and her current landlord has not talked favourably about her to media. They have tried to end her tenancy before due to rent arrears. Here are links to stories which Glenn found:

<http://www.sunlive.co.nz/news/96509-mums-tenancy-feud-heats-up.html>

These two as well:

<http://www.theweekendsun.co.nz/news/118-contamination-scare-tactics.html>

<http://www.sunlive.co.nz/news/100657-amy-wins-goliath-tenancy-battle.html>

Cass

s9(2)(a)

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**From:** Matt Burgess [<mailto:Matt.Burgess@parliament.govt.nz>]

**Sent:** Thursday, 4 August 2016 9:12 a.m.

**To:** Cassandra Rivers

**Subject:** RE: quick question

He's doing a school visit but media will have the chance to ask him anything

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Matt Burgess s9(2)(a)

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**From:** Cassandra Rivers

**Sent:** Thursday, 4 August 2016 9:00:55 a.m.

**To:** Matt Burgess

**Subject:** quick question

Hi there – can you give me a bit of context around the Minister's interview and what he had been invited on to talk about – is this meth thing just in case it comes up, or was the interview set up about something else entirely?

Will be in touch with info shortly, but just had that question in the meantime.

For instance – if he's talking about stock transfers, do you have the info on that?

Cass

04 439 3610

s9(2)(a)

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