



HIYU

Here Is Your Update

News for Community Representatives



October 2012 issue 22

In this issue



Spring

Welcome to the Spring addition of HIYU

Extra Information required for hearings

If you require additional information you should request this from the co-ordinator. Once the information has been collated it needs to be supplied to all parties.

Section 80AA – Correction Power

Correction power helps us to retrospectively pay a benefit where a client:

- did not make or complete an application for benefit at an earlier date and the reason the client did not make or complete an application for benefit was due to an error or omission on the part of the Ministry.

However, the ability to make a decision about correction power has not been delegated beyond the Chief Executive. This means a BRC can recommend that correction power be considered but they are not legally allowed to make a decision on correction power themselves. As the ability to make a decision on correction power has not been delegated below the Chief Executive.

- Spring
- Extra information required for hearings
- Section 80AA – Correction Power
- Applicant not attending hearing
- Need advice?
- Name Change
- Welfare reform reminder
- Summary of Legislation

Applicant not attending hearing

If the applicant does not attend the BRC hearing the Ministry does not attend the hearing either and the review is held on papers only. However, if the review involves a situation where the applicant's evidence would be important, the hearing can be adjourned. An example of such a situation could be a decision regarding an overpayment, or the recoverable nature of a debt. A final notice of hearing should then be issued. It is also desirable to try and contact the applicant, preferably by telephone as well as by letter, to inform them of this.

CONTACT REVIEW OF DECISION FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact these people for further information:
Janet Davis 04 916 3079 Nic Rhodes 04 916 3338
Uiti Pelenato 04 916 3857 Laisiana Qetaki 04 978 4167
Team email: MSD_Review_of_Decision_Team@msd.govt.nz



MINISTRY OF
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora

Need Advice?

The Review and Client Representative team have advisors ready to answer questions you are able to email us on -

MSD_Review_of_Decision_Team@msd.govt.nz

alternatively you can call, phone numbers listed at bottom of first page

Name Change

The ROD team have had a name change, the Review and Client representative team and the advisors are now Review and Client Representative Advisor.

Welfare reform changes effective from 15 October 2012 include:

- Domestic Purposes Benefit - Women alone and Widows Benefit now have work obligations
- part-time work obligations now apply to sole parents and partners when the age of the youngest dependent child is 5-13 years
- full-time work obligations apply to sole parents and partners when the youngest dependent child is aged 14 years or older or when they have no children
- planning obligations have been removed and replaced with work preparation obligations for those with children aged under 5 years
- exemptions have been extended to the new work test benefits and there are three new exemptions for work preparation activities
- there is new policy for situations when an additional child is included in a main benefit

Reporting

Attached to this update is statistics the Review team provide to the Leadership team,

you may find these of interest should you require more information contact the Review team.

Summary of relevant Legislation and Policy changes

This newsletter has, for those requiring a hard copy, an attached update of MAP and Policy changes from 17 July 2012 to date.

Below is the link to the Ministry's external website for MAP and Policy updates:

<http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/manuals-and-procedures/help/changes.htm>