



Dear [REDACTED]

On 17 May 2019, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

1. *How many beneficiaries previously received the Supported Living Payment have had their SLP cancelled in the last calendar year?*
2. *How many beneficiaries have had their Supported Living Payment cancelled each year for the previous five years?*
3. *What benefit, if any, have those people affected, been transferred to?*
4. *What other reasons have MSD had for cancelling those clients' Supported Living Payments?*

You might be interested to know that the Ministry regularly publishes a large amount of data relating to the provision of financial assistance. The answers to question one, two and four of your request are publicly available on the Ministry's website on the Grants and Cancels spreadsheet under 'Summary- Cancels by benefit' and 'Timeseries-cancels': www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/benefit/latest-quarterly-results/grants-and-cancels.html

Enclosed below is a table with the number of people who were transferred from the Supported Living Payment (SLP) to another benefit. This provides the information requested for question three.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public shortly. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us in regards to your request for information about beneficiaries who have had their Supported Living Payment cancelled, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cassandra Wise', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cassandra Wise
**Manager Issue Resolution
Service Delivery**

The number of clients previously receiving SLP who have transferred to another benefit between 2014- 2018, broken down by benefit type and calendar year

Calendar year	From SLP	Transferred to					Total
		JS related	NZS VP	SPS	Non Ben	Other	
2014	6,737	1,874	4,046	315	486	16	6,737
2015	6,614	1,729	4,045	374	445	21	6,614
2016	6,178	1,559	3,896	307	405	11	6,178
2017	6,853	1,512	4,569	330	429	13	6,853
2018	6,608	1,378	4,452	290	476	12	6,608
Total	32,990	8,052	21,008	1,616	2,241	73	32,990

Notes:

- A transfer is when a client is granted a benefit within 14 days of their last benefit being cancelled.
- JS related is Jobseeker Support
- NZS VP is NZ Superannuation and Veteran's Pension
- SPS is Sole Parent Support
- Non Ben is non-beneficiary assistance
- The Other category includes; emergency benefit, emergency maintenance allowance, jobseeker support student hardship, youth payment and young parent payment