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# Approved Information Sharing Agreement between the Ministry of Social Development and the New Zealand Customs Service

Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development

Approved Information Sharing Agreement between the Ministry of Social Development and the New Zealand Customs Service

These documents have been proactively released.

Cabinet minute confirmed on 15 April 2019.

15 April 2019 – Approved Information Sharing Agreement between the Ministry of Social Development and the New Zealand Customs Service, Office of the Minister for Social Development

An Approved Information Sharing Agreement (AISA) has been created between the Ministry of Social Development and the New Zealand Customs Service. This AISA allows MSD to suspend supplementary assistance payments immediately when a client goes overseas for more than 28 days. Prior to the AISA being in place, MSD had to first give clients a 10 day notice period before suspending payments, which created an overpayment debt for clients. The AISA prevents this notice period debt from being created.

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the Act that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it. This is the key to the redaction codes used for this release:

* Section 9(2)(f)(iv): This information is under active consideration. The release of this information at this time would be likely to prejudice the ability of government to consider advice and the wider public interest of effective government would not be served.
* Section 9(2)(h): This information is legally privileged.
* Section 9(2)(a): This information is withheld to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

Note: The Order in Council that the Cabinet paper seeks approval has been released publically on the New Zealand legislation website - <http://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2019/0075/latest/LMS183036.html?search=ts_act%40bill%40regulation%40deemedreg_Privacy+(Information+Sharing+Agreement+between+Ministry+of+Social+Development+and+Customs)+Order+2019%E2%80%99_resel_25_a&p=1>

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