



17 MAY 2019



Dear 

On 16 April 2019, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *The total numbers of Special Needs Grants for Food broken down by Work and Income offices for the quarter ending on 2019-March*

Please find enclosed a table with the number of hardship payments for Special Needs Grants for food and the amount granted during the quarter ending 31 March 2019.

In order to protect client privacy, some values are suppressed and are represented by 'S'. The Ministry is unable to provide you with the exact number as releasing this information is likely to risk identifying the individuals concerned. As such, this information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs and public interest in the information.

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, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding Special Needs Grants for food, 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Cassandra Wise  
**Manager, Issue Resolution, Service Delivery**

**The number of hardship payments for Special Needs Grants (SNGs) for food and the amount granted during the quarter ending 31 March 2019**

Region	Service Centre	SNG	
		Number	Amount
Northland	Dargaville	90	\$8,997.67
	Kaikohe	505	\$53,447.63
	Kaitaia	826	\$86,196.10
	Kamo	319	\$35,149.59
	Kawakawa	199	\$21,160.52
	Kerikeri	396	\$43,988.42
	Whangarei Central	1,931	\$203,971.64
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>4,266</b>	<b>\$452,911.57</b>
Auckland Metro	AK Childcare Processing Centre	98	\$9,806.00
	Albany	409	\$44,183.94
	Avondale	449	\$46,672.89
	Birkenhead District	198	\$19,140.94
	Browns Bay	128	\$11,833.41
	Clendon	2,688	\$357,733.56
	Glenfield	432	\$43,161.39
	Glenmall	1,626	\$182,073.12
	Grey Lynn	454	\$40,715.62
	Helensville	159	\$14,816.51
	Highland Park	351	\$37,214.97
	Hunters Corner District	935	\$106,821.59
	Mangere	3,392	\$481,081.95
	Manukau District	1,188	\$140,480.87
	Manurewa	5,492	\$698,729.23
	Mt Albert	374	\$38,851.96
	Mt Eden	385	\$27,641.81
	New Lynn	713	\$73,697.26
	Onehunga	870	\$98,780.79
	Orewa	973	\$108,218.22
	Otahuhu	1,040	\$113,906.24
	Otara	1,358	\$166,217.68
	Papakura	4,101	\$472,016.40
	Papatoetoe	618	\$61,963.86
	Pukekohe	1,436	\$153,539.14
	Queen Street	827	\$69,770.15
	Takapuna	641	\$64,140.64
	Tamaki	1,648	\$170,812.77
	Three Kings	809	\$92,999.29
	Waiheke	137	\$13,444.23
	Waitakere	2,747	\$313,022.10
	Waiuku	401	\$44,163.70

	Warkworth	372	\$35,609.00
	Westgate	1,351	\$155,440.53
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>38,800</b>	<b>\$4,508,701.76</b>
<b>Waikato</b>	Cambridge	106	\$9,961.92
	Dinsdale	1,721	\$184,594.63
	Five Cross Roads	1,748	\$173,084.70
	Glenview	531	\$50,898.49
	Hamilton	702	\$59,185.04
	Hamilton East	624	\$60,740.54
	Huntly	316	\$31,729.85
	Matamata	91	\$9,490.00
	Morrinsville	115	\$11,219.40
	Ngaruawahia	386	\$38,692.04
	Paeroa	75	\$7,154.80
	Te Awamutu	396	\$42,781.45
	Thames	137	\$13,957.41
	Waihi	185	\$18,705.28
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>7,133</b>
	Greerton	646	\$66,158.34
	Kawerau	428	\$43,424.69
	Mount Maunganui	547	\$57,758.96
<b>Bay of Plenty</b>	Opotiki	198	\$20,534.60
	Rotorua	2,881	\$286,803.05
	Taupo	360	\$38,372.38
	Tauranga	210	\$19,083.96
	Te Puke	336	\$34,587.18
	Tokoroa	548	\$51,727.54
	Whakatane	677	\$64,181.04
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6,831</b>
<b>East Coast</b>	Flaxmere	310	\$36,135.69
	Gisborne	1,384	\$152,703.87
	Hastings Community Link	680	\$70,161.14
	Kaiti	67	\$6,640.00
	Napier	1,323	\$136,060.84
	Ruatoria	72	\$8,156.94
	Taradale	360	\$38,262.65
	Waipukurau	154	\$16,560.23
	Wairoa	243	\$27,802.35
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>4,593</b>	<b>\$492,483.71</b>
<b>Taranaki</b>	Hawera	234	\$28,051.00
	Marton	58	\$6,344.86
	New Plymouth	1,207	\$129,101.39
	Stratford	131	\$12,913.87

	Taihape	124	\$13,257.67
	Taumarunui	123	\$12,128.36
	Te Kuiti	180	\$20,250.00
	Waitara	205	\$22,865.21
	Whanganui	868	\$82,260.86
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,130</b>	<b>\$327,173.22</b>
<b>Central</b>	Dannevirke	368	\$45,552.28
	Feilding	265	\$26,031.19
	Foxton	205	\$25,247.77
	Horowhenua	424	\$46,116.31
	Kapiti	825	\$80,634.55
	Otaki	417	\$44,305.63
	Palmerston North	1,253	\$120,815.81
	Wairarapa	1,005	\$110,181.83
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>4,762</b>	<b>\$498,885.37</b>
<b>Wellington</b>	Johnsonville	466	\$45,252.24
	Lower Hutt	497	\$53,807.66
	Naenae	1,574	\$175,584.64
	Newtown	1,220	\$120,515.76
	Porirua	1,475	\$153,464.71
	Upper Hutt	628	\$69,877.86
	Wainuiomata	406	\$45,439.25
	Wellington	658	\$53,332.06
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6,924</b>	<b>\$717,274.18</b>
<b>Nelson</b>	Blenheim	580	\$65,985.50
	Greymouth	274	\$28,484.14
	Motueka	277	\$29,177.56
	Nelson	533	\$54,302.03
	Nelson Region Processing Unit	S	\$150.00
	Richmond	441	\$52,727.91
	Westport	S	\$11,539.00
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,231</b>	<b>\$242,366.14</b>
<b>Canterbury</b>	Ashburton	148	\$14,372.23
	Canterbury Youth Service	94	\$6,688.04
	Hornby	461	\$47,459.38
	Linwood	648	\$59,869.55
	New Brighton	454	\$39,581.83
	Papanui	393	\$36,156.42
	Rangiora	333	\$39,968.76
	Riccarton	209	\$17,530.96
	Shirley	506	\$46,825.56
	Sydenham	580	\$49,423.43
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,826</b>

<b>Southern</b>	Alexandra	39	\$4,818.00
	Balclutha	115	\$13,101.76
	Dunedin Central	977	\$90,782.16
	Gore	288	\$32,292.96
	Invercargill	1,065	\$115,499.90
	Mosgiel	118	\$12,268.00
	Oamaru	139	\$15,067.09
	Queenstown	83	\$9,906.57
	South Dunedin	440	\$41,834.17
	Timaru	543	\$54,565.16
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,807</b>	<b>\$390,135.77</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>126,568</b>	<b>\$12,346,229.20</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>212,871</b>	<b>\$21,728,864.37</b>

**Notes:**

- This represents a count of grants not individuals as the same client may have been granted a hardship payment more than once.
- This represents payments to all benefits and pensions, not just working age clients on main benefits.
- This represents the amount granted, which may not always equal the amount paid out.
- In certain circumstances low numbers may potentially lead to individuals being identified. Due to these privacy concerns, numbers for some categories of clients have been suppressed or aggregated. Secondary suppression rules have also been applied when required. Suppressed numbers have been replaced by an 'S'.
- Service Centre is based on where the recommending case manager was based at the time of the grant.
- 'Other' includes the:
  - Central Processing Unit
  - Centralised Collection Unit
  - Centralised Unit Housing
  - Christchurch Contact Centre
  - Due Paid Assessment Team
  - Ellerslie Contact Centre
  - Hamilton Contact Centre
  - National Office
  - Remote Client Unit
  - Seniors Support Centre
  - Specialised Processing Srv WLG
  - Specialised Processing Srv WRE
  - Staff Assistance Unit
  - StudyLink Processing Unit
  - Waitakere Contact Centre
  - Wellington Contact Centre
  - Youth Service Support Unit