



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

06 JUL 2020

Dear

On 17 June 2020, the Office of Hon Carmel Sepuloni transferred your request to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry), under the Official Information Act 1982, for a response.

You have requested the following information:

- *The extent of financial support offered through Accommodation Supplements since they first began. I would like to know the yearly cost since this initiative began. If you could provide this or refer me onto a resource that displays this information, it would be greatly appreciated.*

An Accommodation Supplement is a non-taxable benefit that provides assistance towards a client's accommodation costs. A person does not have to be getting a benefit to qualify for Accommodation Supplement. The Accommodation Supplement was first introduced in 1993.

Table One below shows the amounts paid annually by the Ministry for Accommodation Supplements. The data has been broken down by Financial Years.

Table One: Amounts paid annually by the Ministry of Social Development for Accommodation Supplements, for the period between financial year 1993 to partial financial year ending 31 May 2020.

Financial Year	Accommodation Supplement (figures in \$'000s)
1992/93	210,834
1993/94	351,319
1994/95	491,437
1995/96	561,794
1996/97	661,213
1997/98	792,708
1998/99	633,849
1999/00	866,957
2000/01	795,081
2001/02	719,580
2002/03	705,983
2003/04	702,078
2004/05	749,652

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Financial Year	Accommodation Supplement (figures in \$'000s)
2005/06	843,169
2006/07	876,995
2007/08	891,054
2008/09	989,280
2009/10	1,153,526
2010/11	1,196,647
2011/12	1,194,725
2012/13	1,177,273
2013/14	1,145,834
2014/15	1,128,825
2015/16	1,163,653
2016/17	1,126,964
2017/18	1,203,509
2018/19	1,551,982
1 July 2019 to 31 May 2020	1,556,305

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. 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.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding Accommodation Supplement, 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



Ranjit Singh
Chief Financial Officer