



12 JUN 2020

Tēnā koe

On 21 May 2020, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *A breakdown of the number and value of Special Needs Grants issued for the Wairarapa sub-region (Masterton, Carterton, and South Wairarapa District Councils), per month for the period 1 January 2019 - May 2020, broken down per SNG category.*

Please be advised that the Ministry is unable to provide a monthly breakdown of the number and value of Special Needs Grants (SNGs) granted in the Wairarapa Community Link broken down by SNG need for the period you have specified as this is outside the Ministry's standard reporting. The Ministry is however able to provide you with quarterly figures.

Please find enclosed **Table One** and **Table Two** which show the number and amount of SNGs granted in the Wairarapa Community Link for each quarter during the period 1 January 2019 to 31 March 2020, broken down by SNG need.

In order to protect client privacy, some values are suppressed and are represented by 'S'. Secondary suppression rules have also been applied when required. 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. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachments 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 SNGs in the Wairarapa, 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.

Nāku iti, noa,nā

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

Bridget Saunders
Manager, Issue Resolution, Service Delivery

Table One: Number of SNGs granted in the Wairarapa Community Link for each quarter during the period 1 January 2019 to 31 March 2020, broken down by SNG need

SNG Need	Quarter ending				
	March 2019	June 2019	September 2019	December 2019	March 2020
Food	1,005	940	928	992	1,064
Health Travel Costs Client Only (Non-Recoverable)	23	18	19	43	51
Emergency Medical Treatment (prescription charges)	10	14	S	S	12
Dental Treatment Advance	S	S	0	0	0
Assistance during an initial stand down and/or application process	12	19	22	19	23
Other Emergency Grants	15	32	18	14	16
Health Travel Costs Client Only (Recoverable)	12	S	17	13	10
Re-establishment Sole Parent (Accommodation)	0	0	S	S	0
Health Travel Costs with attendant (Non-Recoverable)	0	0	S	S	7
Re-establishment Sole Parent (Other)	0	S	S	S	0
Re-establishment Long Term Patient (Other)	0	6	S	S	S
NET Payment	0	S	6	S	S
HSP Transition to Alternative Housing Grant	S	0	0	0	0
HSP Bond Grant	0	S	0	0	0
HSP Moving Assistance	0	S	0	0	0
HSP Tenancy Costs Cover	0	S	0	0	0
Emergency Housing	42	46	82	94	135
Steps to freedom	8	16	30	14	12
Termination of Pregnancy - Travel	0	0	0	0	S
Vasectomy Surgery	S	0	0	0	0
Water Tank Refill	S	0	S	0	S
Emergency Medical Treatment (fees)	16	17	16	23	26
Transfer to NZ Super	11	18	15	17	10
Ambulance Fees (Non-Subscription)	0	0	S	0	0
Bedding	S	6	S	6	S
Dental Treatment	139	140	128	138	127
Drivers Licence Renewal	S	S	10	14	12
Drivers Licence New	25	37	40	46	39

SNG Need	Quarter ending				
	March 2019	June 2019	September 2019	December 2019	March 2020
Dentures	0	0	0	S	0
Effluent treatment system	0	0	0	S	0
Domestic Violence	7	13	18	15	S
Emergency Medical Equipment	S	S	S	S	S
Sole Parent Study Assistance	0	0	S	0	0
Seasonal Work Assistance	0	0	S	0	0
Health Travel Costs with attendant (Recoverable)	0	S	0	0	0
Student Allowance Transfer Grant	S	0	S	10	S
Car Impound Fee	0	0	0	0	S
Total	1,350	1,346	1,376	1,478	1,564

Table Two: Amount of SNGs granted in the Wairarapa Community Link for each quarter during the period 1 January 2019 to 31 March 2019, broken down by SNG need

SNG Need	Quarter ending				
	March 2019	June 2019	September 2019	December 2019	March 2020
Food	\$110,182	\$105,901	\$100,143	\$107,656	\$108,399
Health Travel Costs Client Only (Non-Recoverable)	\$1,803	\$1,540	\$1,500	\$2,926	\$3,884
Emergency Medical Treatment (prescription charges)	\$467	\$1,373	\$348	\$110	\$293
Dental Treatment Advance	\$588	\$575	\$0	\$0	\$0
Assistance during an initial stand down and/or application process	\$1,256	\$2,395	\$2,722	\$2,455	\$2,714
Other Emergency Grants	\$3,042	\$6,011	\$3,590	\$1,119	\$6,725
Health Travel Costs Client Only (Recoverable)	\$1,051	\$390	\$1,270	\$1,060	\$565
Re-establishment Sole Parent (Accommodation)	\$0	\$0	\$740	\$669	\$0
Health Travel Costs with attendant (Non-Recoverable)	\$0	\$0	\$60	\$55	\$440
Re-establishment Sole Parent (Other)	\$0	\$600	\$341	\$720	\$0
Re-establishment Long Term Patient (Other)	\$0	\$2,784	\$1,200	\$661	\$704
NET Payment	\$0	\$1,241	\$2,336	\$2,117	\$511
HSP Transition to Alternative Housing Grant	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
HSP Bond Grant	\$0	\$3,280	\$0	\$0	\$0
HSP Moving Assistance	\$0	\$736	\$0	\$0	\$0
HSP Tenancy Costs Cover	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$0	\$0

SNG Need	Quarter ending				
	March 2019	June 2019	September 2019	December 2019	March 2020
Emergency Housing	\$25,175	\$38,491	\$72,622	\$107,048	\$173,833
Steps to freedom	\$2,646	\$5,409	\$9,869	\$4,718	\$4,005
Termination of Pregnancy - Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$60
Vasectomy Surgery	\$1,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water Tank Refill	\$894	\$0	\$590	\$0	\$1,500
Emergency Medical Treatment (fees)	\$2,875	\$1,538	\$1,944	\$3,420	\$2,956
Transfer to NZ Super	\$2,831	\$5,503	\$4,858	\$5,456	\$3,578
Ambulance Fees (Non-Subscription)	\$0	\$0	\$98	\$0	\$0
Bedding	\$893	\$1,161	\$508	\$1,176	\$786
Dental Treatment	\$39,930	\$39,508	\$35,533	\$38,452	\$36,622
Drivers Licence Renewal	\$38	\$88	\$428	\$603	\$504
Drivers Licence New	\$2,847	\$4,054	\$4,731	\$5,088	\$4,488
Dentures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,400	\$0
Effluent treatment system	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300	\$0
Domestic Violence	\$2,508	\$4,565	\$6,639	\$6,277	\$843
Emergency Medical Equipment	\$839	\$1,572	\$473	\$466	\$814
Sole Parent Study Assistance	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$0
Seasonal Work Assistance	\$0	\$0	\$1,288	\$0	\$0
Health Travel Costs with attendant (Recoverable)	\$0	\$390	\$0	\$0	\$0
Student Allowance Transfer Grant	\$1,330	\$0	\$170	\$3,431	\$679
Car Impound Fee	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$638
Total	\$205,996	\$229,905	\$254,500	\$297,384	\$355,540

Notes:

- This is a count of grants not clients.
- A client may have multiple grants in a period and be counted more than once.
- The Service Centre is based on the Work and Income site where the recommending case manager for the application was based at the time of the grant.
- NET payment refers to a New Employment Transition Grant, provided to clients with a dependent child or children during the first six months that their benefit is stopped due to employment.
- HSP refers to Housing Support Products, which aim to address barriers to accessing or retaining housing by meeting needs not covered by other forms of assistance.
- 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'.