



Tēnā koe

On 31 August 2021, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *The number of people receiving the Accommodation Supplement (quarterly or annual) for the last 5 years in the wellington region – a regional total and by territorial authority.*

The Accommodation Supplement (AS) is a non-taxable benefit that provides assistance towards a client's accommodation costs. It is available for people who rent, board or own their own home and a person does not have to be receiving a benefit to qualify. It is calculated using a formula that takes into account geographical location, family size, accommodation costs, income and tenure type (renting, boarding or home ownership). You can find more information about the AS at the following link: [www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/accommodation-supplement.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/accommodation-supplement.html).

Information regarding the rates of AS can be found at the following link: [www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/deskfile/extra-help-information/accommodation-supplement-tables/entry-thresholds-and-maximum-rates.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/deskfile/extra-help-information/accommodation-supplement-tables/entry-thresholds-and-maximum-rates.html).

Please find in the attached Excel spreadsheet, **Table One**, which presents the number of Accommodation Supplements in selected Wellington Territorial Local Authority (TLA) as at quarters ending 30 June 2016 to 30 June 2021, broken down by TLAs.

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 regarding Accommodation Supplement in Wellington, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto: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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

*Bridget Saunders*

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**Manager, Issue Resolution  
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