



30 November 2022

Tēnā koe

On 2 November 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *For each year from 1 July 2006, using total figures only, how many resolved decisions that were overturned, partially upheld or upheld had an advocate present?*

Please refer to **Table One** in the attached **Appendix**, which details the number of resolved Review of Decision heard by the Benefits Review Committee where an advocate was present from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2022 broken down by financial year and Committee Decision. 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'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, 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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Diane Anderson  
**Manager**  
**Client Advocacy and Review**

## Appendix

**Table One:** The number of resolved Review of Decisions heard by the Benefits Review Committee where an advocate was present from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2022, broken down by financial year and Committee Decision.

Financial Year	Overtured	Partially upheld	Upheld	Total
1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007	45	12	96	153
1 July 2007 - 30 June 2008	27	9	111	147
1 July 2008 - 30 June 2009	27	21	123	171
1 July 2009 - 30 June 2010	36	21	189	246
1 July 2010 - 30 June 2011	39	18	213	270
1 July 2011 - 30 June 2012	42	21	195	258
1 July 2012 - 30 June 2013	33	15	174	222
1 July 2013 - 30 June 2014	45	24	222	291
1 July 2014 - 30 June 2015	42	24	246	312
1 July 2015 - 30 June 2016	33	24	177	234
1 July 2016 - 30 June 2017	39	30	204	276
1 July 2017 - 30 June 2018	72	45	309	423
1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019	48	45	159	249
1 July 2019 - 30 June 2020	21	6	111	141
1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021	33	15	162	210
1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022	24	12	123	159
<b>Total</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>2,805</b>	<b>3,756</b>

### Table Notes:

- This is a count of reviews, not clients. A client may have more than one review within a period.
- To protect confidentiality the Ministry uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data.
- These data tables have had random rounding to base three applied to all cell counts in the table.
- A value of one or two will be rounded to three.
- The impact of applying random rounding is that columns and rows may not add exactly to the given column or row totals.
- The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.
- This data does not contain "Does not lie (not reviewable)" outcomes. As such, counts may differ slightly when compared to the data provided to you previously.