



28 August 2023

Tēnā koe

On 3 August 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

*Please could you provide a data set specifying the number of people claiming the following types of benefits by 2017 Area Unit Boundary:*

- *Job Seeker Support (JS Related)*
- *Sole Parent Support (SPS Related)*
- *Supported Living Payment (SLP Related)*
- *Other benefits*

*for the quarter/s ending June 2023.*

*We understand that benefit claimant figures lower than 5 will be suppressed as per the criteria of section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act and stipulations of the Privacy Act 1993.*

*This request is essentially a follow on request to job number IMSD-5348. The data required is exactly the same as provided under this job number but for the quarter/s specified above.*

The data requested is the same as was previously provided to you for previous quarters but for the quarter ending June 2023.

The relevant data has been compiled and is being released to you. Due to the size of the data set requested, it is provided as an Excel spreadsheet attached as **Appendix** to this response.

On 21 August 2023, the Ministry contacted you to advise that preparing this information would incur a charge. The Ministry is releasing this information to you in good faith, with understanding that the payment will be made as previously agreed. You will receive an invoice in due course.

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'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 working age clients on main benefits, 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*

Bridget Saunders  
**Manager Issue Resolution  
Service Delivery**