

1 May 2023

Tēnā koe

On 29 March 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 the following information:

- *Please provide details of community card holders on an annual basis from 2018 onwards and divide them into Māori & non-Māori please.*

The Ministry administers the Community Services Card (CSC) which entitles the holder to higher subsidies for visits to a doctor outside of their primary health organisation, after-hours doctor visits and other health services provided by hospitals including emergency dental care. Further information regarding CSC including eligibility criteria is available from the Work and Income website here: www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/community-services-card.html.

Attached as an **APPENDIX** is a table that shows the number of CSC holders for the years 2018 to 2022, as at the end of December, broken down by Māori, non-Māori and ethnicity unspecified. We have also provided data for people who receive both the SuperGold card and CSC. I hope you find this helpful.

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 attachment 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.

If you are not satisfied with this response providing data for the CSC and the SuperGold card, 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.

Ngā mihi nui

pp Thomas Dalzell

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