

29 April 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your email of 9 April 2024, requesting information about New Zealand Superannuation (NZS).

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

- 1. Under the OIA could you please state the number of persons entitled to NZ Superannuation and who also receive Chinese State pensions.
- 2. Under the OIA, of those who receive both, how many are subject to the Social Security Act 2018, Sections 187-191?

In 1997, the Chinese Government introduced a state-administered pension system. This Chinese pension, the Chinese Urban Pension, became subject to deduction in July 2022, as these pensions are not payable until an employee and their employer have paid into that state system for at least 15 years, after which they must be resident and present in New Zealand for the required 10-year period to qualify for NZS.

32 people are receiving the Chinese Urban Pension and NZS.

The Ministry does not know how many people receive non-deductible pensions from China. Our clients are not required to tell us when they receive pensions which are not subject to the Social Security Act 2018, unless they receive income tested assistance. In this instance, the pension would be recorded as other income – not specifically recorded as a pension from overseas.

Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act, as the information you had requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is either held by or closely connected to the functions of another department, Minister of the Crown or organisation.

The Aurora Centre, 56 The Terrace, PO Box 1556, Wellington

⁻ Telephone 04-916 3300 - Facsimile 04-918 0099

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details removed, on the Ministry's website in due course. If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact <u>OIA Requests@msd.govt.nz</u>.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at <u>www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</u> or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

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Magnus O'Neill General Manager Ministerial and Executive Services