



16 May 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

On 17 April 2024, Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People, transferred part two of your request to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry), to respond to. You requested the number of parents who are carers of their children with a disability.

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

The Ministry contacted you on two occasions, 3 and 10 May 2024, requesting a refinement on your request. As the Ministry has not received a response, we have interpreted your request to be for the number of caregivers who are receiving financial assistance on behalf of and/or for a child with a disability. Please note, a caregiver can be a parent or guardian of the child.

Please refer to the **Appendix** enclosed with this letter in response to your question.

Please note, 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 where, values have been randomly rounded to the nearest multiple of 3. This is applied to all cell counts in the table. 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.

I have included some general information about Supported Living Payment-Carer (SLP-CARER), Disability Allowance (DA) and Child Disability Allowance (CDA) below, for your further information.

General information on SLP-Carer

SLP-CARER can be paid to a parent who is required to provide full-time care and attention at home, to their dependent child who has a significant disability, and as a result has high care needs eg hospital care.

This is not intended to be paid to parents for children who only need the levels of care required for children typical of their age.

If you would like more information on SLP-CARER, I recommend visiting the Ministry's Manual and Procedures (MAP) website at the following link:

www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/main-benefits/supported-living-payment/caring-for-a-person-01.html.

General information on DA and CDA

Disability Allowance (DA) and Child Disability Allowance (CDA) provide non-taxable assistance to people who have on-going, additional costs because of a disability. DA and CDA provide assistance for a number of costs, including the ongoing costs of consumable items that are directly related to a client's disability.

More information on DA can be found at the following link: www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/extra-help/disability-allowance/introduction.html.

More information on CDA can be found at the following link: www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/extra-help/child-disability-allowance/introduction.html.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

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 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 www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services