



21 May 2024

Tēnā koe

**Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your email of 25 April 2024, requesting information on the Minister for Social Development and Employment's (the Minister) power to consent to backdated payments of benefits under section 317 of the Social Security Act.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on your request set out below.

I can advise that the Minister delegated this power on 7 June 2022 to the Chief Executive of the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) and the delegation took effect on 8 June 2022. Please find attached:

- 2022-06-08 correction power delegation from Minister signed 07 June 2022.

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](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request for information on the Minister for Social Development and Employment's (the Minister) power to consent to backdated payments of benefits under section 317 of the Social Security Act, 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

Magnus O'Neill  
**General Manager**  
**Ministerial and Executive Services**