



11 December 2025

Tēnā koe

**Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your email of 29 November 2025, requesting information about COVID-19 Wage Subsidy paid to Stuff Limited, including employee information.

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

Information about COVID-19 wage subsidies is available on the employer search webpage, here: <https://services.workandincome.govt.nz/eps/search>.

Stuff applied for the initial subsidy on 15 April 2020, for 907 employees, and received \$6,319,255.20 on 16 April 2020, for the period 15 April 2020 to 7 July 2020.

At the time of the application, 887 of the staff were full time employees, and 20 were part time employees.

Stuff then volunteered to repay \$52,370.52 in June 2020 for ten staff who had resigned or were made redundant during the period covered by the subsidy. I note that repayments were not required to be made for employees who resigned.

A further voluntary repayment of \$55,651.00 was received from Stuff for a further eleven staff that had left to go on parental leave or had resigned.

The total amount repaid was \$108,021.52 for 21 staff.

The Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) did not administer the \$50 million media relief package. This part of your request was transferred to the Ministry for Culture and Heritage for response.

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 regarding COVID-19 Wage Subsidy paid to Stuff Limited, 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

pp.



Anna Graham  
**General Manager**  
**Ministerial and Executive Services**