



13 February 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 24 January 2025, requesting information about clients aged 65+ who have received financial hardship assistance in the past 12 months.

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

Please see the attached **Appendix** detailing the number of Special Needs Grants (SNG), Advanced Payment of Benefits (ADV), and Recoverable Assistance Payments (RAP) paid for energy and food bills over the past 12 months, to clients aged 65 and over, in the Taranaki region.

Please note that we have only included data about grants paid for energy and food. If you would like data with other grants included, such as grants for whiteware or emergency housing grants, please let us know and we can process as a new request.

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. 

Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services