

# New Zealand Superannuation and Veteran's Pension changes

As part of the Wellbeing Budget the Government is making the system simpler and more modern.

**Budget 2019**

## ● NZ Super and Veteran's Pension are moving toward an individual entitlement.

- From 1 July 2020, the Government is closing the non-qualified partner provision, and removing the direct deduction of a government-administered overseas pension received by a superannuitant's partner from that superannuitant's NZ Super or the Veteran's Pension.
- Around 450 superannuitants (in 2022/23) will no longer have their entitlement to NZ Super or the Veteran's Pension reduced because of their partner's overseas pension.
- It will be simpler to apply for NZS or VP because in most cases MSD will not require so much information about applicants' partners.
- Around 6,300 fewer people who do not personally qualify for NZS or VP will be included in their partner's NZS or VP (by 2022/23).
- People who are currently included as a non-qualified partner will continue to receive this rate unless their circumstances change.
- The changes reflect society today. In most households both partners work. There is no longer a 'principal breadwinner' whose retirement marks the retirement of both partners.

- People's entitlement will be based on their own circumstances, rather than on the circumstances of their partner.  
(But single people will still receive higher rates to reflect their needs.)