



Coversheet

Welfare Overhaul: Removing the Subsequent Child Policy

Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development

The following documents have been proactively released:

- 22 July 2020 Cabinet paper, *Welfare Overhaul: Removing the Subsequent Child Policy*.
- 22 July 2020 *Impact Summary: Removing the Subsequent Child Policy*.
- 22 July 2020 *Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee Minute of Decision* [SWC-20-MIN-0101].
- 27 July 2020 *Cabinet Minute of Decision* [CAB-20-MIN-0352].

Cabinet agreed to remove the additional dependent child policy (commonly known as the subsequent child policy) from the Social Security Act 2018. This policy currently impacts eligibility for Sole Parent Support and places obligations on parents to return to work earlier if they have an additional child while receiving a main benefit.

The Minister for Social Development will report to the Cabinet Legislation Committee in due course on the appropriate legislative vehicle to amend the Social Security Act 2018. This legislative change is planned to come into effect in November 2021.

Please note – The Cabinet paper had a typographical error in paragraph 31: the data is at May 2019 not July 2019, and Impact Summary is the same. This does not have a substantive change on the assessed impact and cost of the policy.

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the Act that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to Redactions Codes used for this release:

- Section 9(2)(a): this information is withheld in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.
- Out of scope: material unrelated to the information released.

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