



30 AUG 2019



Dear 

On 26 August 2019, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *I would like the Ministry to confirm that they are checking that protestors at Ihumatao are not claiming and being paid benefits while they are there. Examples being supplementary accommodation, unemployment to name just two.*

All main benefits and supplementary assistance have eligibility criteria that people must continue to meet in order to receive assistance. The Ministry is not checking the entitlement of protestors at Ihumatao specifically.

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 this response, 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.

Yours sincerely

Elisabeth Brunt
General Manager Ministerial and Executive Services