Dear

On 1 July 2019, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *the number of people receiving financial assistance based on the area codes 0960, 0963, 0961, 0962 and 0991, broken down by NZS, Main benefit, JSS, JSS with current medical, SLP caring for, SLP with current 2 year cert, SPs and age.*

Please find enclosed two tables showing the number of people and the age of people receiving main benefits and other ongoing payments whose residential address postcode is 0991. The Ministry has no record of client residential addresses with postcodes 0960, 0963, 0961, and 0962.

I am unable to provide a further breakdown of the number of people receiving the payments you have identified by age, benefit type, and postcode, as releasing this information is likely to risk identifying the individuals concerned. As such, this information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in the information.

Please note that the information provided is non-standard reporting. While the Ministry has reported the information to you in this format to meet your request, this may not be possible in future.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:
- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public shortly. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

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 regarding people receiving various payments with the residential postcode 0991, 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

Cassandra Wise
Manager, Issue Resolution, Service Delivery

Table One: The number of people receiving main benefits or other ongoing payments for postcode 0991 as at the end of June 2019

Benefit/ Payment	Job Seeker Support		Supported Living Payment		Sole Parent Support	New Zealand Superannuation and Veterans Payment	Non-beneficiary assistance	Total
	Work Ready	Health Condition and Disability	Carers	Health Condition and Disability				
Number of Clients	57	25	S	24	7	217	S	337

Table Two: The age of people receiving main benefits or other ongoing payments for postcode 0991 as at the end of June 2019

Age Group	16-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65+	Total
Number of Clients	12	9	16	27	33	29	211	337

Notes:

- Please note that the above is non-standard reporting. While the Ministry has reported the information to you in this format to meet your request, this may not be possible in future.

- Non-beneficiary assistance is supplementary assistance provided by the Ministry that is not a main benefit, for example payments such as the accommodation supplement.

- Low numbers may potentially lead to individuals being identified. Due to these privacy concerns, numbers for some categories of clients have been suppressed or aggregated. Secondary suppression rules have also been applied when required. Suppressed numbers have been replaced by an 'S'. As such, this information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in the information.