



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

10 MAR 2021

On 10 February 2021, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *I am undertaking a housing stocktake for the Manawatu District and am interested to obtain Accommodation Supplement data for the local council area. Is MSD able to provide this data at the TA level?*

The Accommodation Supplement is a weekly payment to support people with the costs of rent, board or owning a home. To receive an Accommodation Supplement, clients must meet the eligibility criteria. You can find more information about the Accommodation Supplement at the following link: www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/accommodation-supplement.html.

Please find the following table included in Appendix One for the Manawatu District Territorial Local Authority (TLA):

- **Table One:** The number of recipients of Accommodation Supplement payments in the Manawatu District Territorial Local Authority as at the end of each quarter, for the calendar years 2016 to 2020

The principles and purposes of the Act 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
- 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. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachments 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 the number of recipients of Accommodation Supplement payments in the Manawatu District, 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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elof', with a small 'pp' written to the left.

Bridget Saunders
**Manager, Issue Resolution
Service Delivery**

Appendix One

Table One: The number of recipients of Accommodation Supplement payments in the Manawatu District Territorial Local Authority as at the end of each quarter, for the calendar years 2016 to 2020

Quarter Ending	Accommodation Supplement Payments
March 2016	1,665
June 2016	1,671
September 2016	1,719
December 2016	1,731
March 2017	1,701
June 2017	1,737
September 2017	1,725
December 2017	1,731
March 2018	1,704
June 2018	1,731
September 2018	1,770
December 2018	1,788
March 2019	1,785
June 2019	1,809
September 2019	1,848
December 2019	1,917
March 2020	1,881
June 2020	1,971
September 2020	1,986
December 2020	2,055

Notes:

- The number of recipients of Accommodation Supplement is the number of individuals, couples, or families. It is not necessarily a count of households.
- This data includes clients of all ages and all benefit types, including Non-Beneficiary assistance.
- 'Manawatu District' is based on the clients' address as at the end of each period.
- To protect confidentiality, the Ministry uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data. These data tables have had random rounding to base three applied to all cell counts in the table. A value of one or two may be rounded to zero or three. The impact of applying random rounding is that columns and rows may not add exactly to the given column or row totals. The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.