



5 April 2022

Tēnā koe

On 12 February 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

*Please supply all work you have done or that you hold that estimates or considers how many people are likely to lose their jobs through Covid-19 vaccine mandates.*

*My request includes, but is not restricted to, all advice to ministers.*

*It also includes, but is not restricted to, estimates or data concerning the number of people who have already or may have already lost their jobs through Covid-19 vaccine mandates.*

*Please also include all details of any industry-specific information related to job loss or likely job loss and Covid-19 vaccine mandates.*

*The request also includes, but is not restricted to, any work related to the number of people likely to require additional support through the benefit system because of vaccine mandates.*

*Please also include any work that considers, tallies or estimates the number of people who have requested additional financial support through MSD related to Covid-19 vaccine mandates. The request includes, but is not restricted to, any work or data MSD holds related to particularly affected groups or sectors.*

*Please limit my request to the period: Jan 1, 2021 to the present day.*

Please see enclosed in the response the following documents that are in scope of your request:

- REP/21/11/1266 - *Joint Ministers' Report 2021 Half Year Economic and Fiscal Update of Benefit Forecasts for Vote Social Development*, dated 10 December 2021 (refer to page 10)

- System Performance In Focus: HYEUFU 21 Benefit Forecasts – Forecasting and Costing (refer to page 14)
- Talking Points: Key lines about vaccine mandates

Please note that the Talking Points: Key lines about vaccine mandates document was produced internally for the Ministry's Forecasting and Costing team.

Some information is withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act as it is under active consideration. The release of this information is likely to prejudice the ability of government to consider advice and the wider public interest of effective government would not be served.

You will note that some information has been deemed to be 'out of scope' of your request, as this information relates to Ministry staff names and contact details who are below tier 4 and/or who are not decision-makers.

The Ministry's analysis on the COVID vaccination uptake for working age MSD clients is available online at the following link: [www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/covid-19/vaccination-update.html](http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/covid-19/vaccination-update.html).

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. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachments on the Ministry'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](mailto: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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a final flourish.

Lena Sapunova

**Director, Office of the Deputy Chief Executive, Strategy and Insights**