



17 June 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

On 11 June 2024, the Office of Hon Louise Upston transferred your request to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) to respond to. You requested information on the Ministry's benefit and hardship assistance applications.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please refer to the attached **Appendix** which contains the following two tables in response to your request:

Table One: Number of hardship grants and declines in the periods 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023 and 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2024.

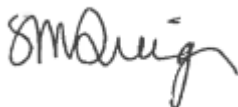
Table Two: Number of working age main benefit grants and declines in the periods 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023 and 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2024.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

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 my decision on your request, 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.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services