



17 September 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 20 August 2024, requesting information relating to electricity and gas financial hardship grants in the East Coast Region. Thank you for the phone call of 5 September 2024, in which you confirmed you would like Territorial Local Authority (TLA) data for Gisborne and Nelson.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Please find the information requested attached in **Appendix A**:

Table 1: Number of, and amount granted for, hardship payments approved for electricity, gas, and water in Gisborne District and Nelson City TLA for May, June, and July in 2023 and 2024.

Table 2: Number of, and amount granted for, hardship payments approved for electricity, gas, and water in entire New Zealand for May, June, and July in 2023 and 2024.

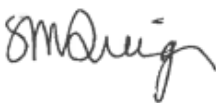
In addition to the information provided in **Appendix A**, I note that during the timeframe specified in your request, the Winter Energy Payment will have been paid to those receiving a main benefit, pension, or Jobseeker Support Student Hardship. The Winter Energy Payment is an extra payment to help with household heating costs over the winter months of 1 May to 1 October.

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

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Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services