



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

28 AUG 2020

Larry Grigson  
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Tēnā koe Larry Grigson

On 4 August 2020, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *The staff names who made the decision that I was not living alone as per "The ACT" and subsequently reduced my superannuation entitlement.*

At the time of your New Zealand Superannuation being changed to a single sharing rate, the Ministry believed there was only one dwelling at your address. It was later confirmed, by you, that there are in fact two dwellings. Your payments have been updated accordingly to the New Zealand Superannuation living alone rate.

The Ministry has considered your request, however in order to *maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of Ministers, members of organisations, officers, and employees from improper pressure or harassment*, the information requested is withheld under section 9(2)(g)(ii) of the Act. The reasons to withhold this information outweighs the public interest.

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 regarding 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.

Nāku noa, nā

*pp* Kate Satterthwaite  
**General Manager  
Ministerial & Executive Services**