



20 March 2024

Ohakune Ratepayers and Residents' Society Inc
fyi-request-25832-528c06a0@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koutou,

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 22 February 2024, requesting information about main benefits recipients in the Ruapehu District.

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

Please find my decision on your request below and in the attached spreadsheet.

We request the data for Ruapehu as a whole and if possible for Ohakune and raetihi individually.

- 1./ how many people receiving a main benefit along with what type of benefit (jobseeker, work ready, health condition or disability, sole parent disability, supported living)
a breakdown of payments by age bracket*

Please find attached in **Table One**, which provides the number of working age main benefit clients in the Ruapehu District Territorial Local Authority (TLA) area as at the end of December 2023, broken down by benefit type and age group.

- 2./ a breakdown of how many have been on the benefit for 12 months or more and 12 months or less*

You will find in **Table Two**, the number of working age main benefit clients in the Ruapehu District TLA area as at the end of December 2023, broken down by benefit type and continuous duration length.

- 3./ a total cost per 12 month period (last 3 years) spent on welfare payments for Ruapehu region, Ohakune town and raetihi town.*
- 4./ a total cost of additional benefits paid for each region (above), I.e. when a beneficiary has asked for fuel or transport to medical appointments etc.*

The Ministry is unable to provide data on the cost to the Ministry of benefits paid at a regional level for parts three and four of your request, as this information is not held. The Ministry can only provide expenditure at a national level. If you are interested, we invite you to submit another request for this information.

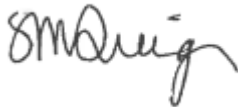
As such, I am refusing parts three and four of your request under section 18(g) of the Act, as the information you had requested is not held by the Ministry and I

have no grounds to believe that the information is either held by or closely connected to the functions of another department, Minister of the Crown or organisation.

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