



Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector
Minister for Disability Issues
Minister for Social Development and Employment
Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

22 JUL 2024

Paul Shelton
fyi-request-27364-adf573e3@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Paul

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your email of 24 June 2024, requesting the following information:

Could you please send me any information about the 2024 child poverty rate and any advice you have received about the increase in child poverty?

The most current child poverty rates, published by Stats NZ in February 2024, are the child poverty rates for the 2022/23 financial year (July 2022 to June 2023) and are available on Stats NZ's website: <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/child-poverty-statistics-year-ended-june-2023/>. Note that these rates cover a period of time when the previous Government was in office. The current Government is committed to helping lift more families and their children out of hardship.

The child poverty rates for the 2023/2024 financial year (July 2023 to June 2024) will not be published by Stats NZ until February 2025 and the rates for the 2024/25 financial year (July 2024 to June 2025) will not be published until February 2026.

On 26 June 2024, my office contacted you to seek refinement to your request. As my office has not heard from you to date, I am interpreting your request as follows (which is what was outlined in the refinement email):

Advice I have received about the increases in child poverty, that were reflected in the child poverty rate, published in February 2024, by Stats NZ.

I have identified three documents containing information in scope of your request.

Please find attached document one as Appendix 1.

- Appendix 1- Aide Mémoire 2022/23 Child Poverty Rates

This document is released in full with some redactions made under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act in order to withhold the contact details of staff.

The other two documents are briefings which contain information largely outside the scope of your request, and as such, have not been provided in full. However,

I have included the relevant excerpts from these briefings in accordance with section 16(1)(c) as Appendix 2 and 3, as outlined below, attached with this letter.

- Appendix 2- Briefing *Review of the second intermediate child poverty reduction targets*
- Appendix 3- Briefing *Statutory review of the current 10-year child poverty reduction targets*

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with me, including this decision, please feel free to contact my office: L.Upston@ministers.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Sincerely



Hon Louise Upston
Minister for Child Poverty Reduction