



24 September 2024

Brendon

[fyi-request-28332-010b35b5@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-28332-010b35b5@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Brendon

Thank you for your email to Inland Revenue on 8 September 2024 requesting the following information (numbered for ease of response):

- 1. Can you please advise how much public money Collected from Taxes goes into funding Members Of Parliament including the Prime Minister and his office Held in New Zealand, it will be interesting to know this As the current cost of living rises and the unemployment rate is also rising,*
- 2. Can you also advise the amount of hardship application withdrawals during the national led government 2023 to 2024.*

On 13 September 2024, Inland Revenue provided you with an initial response to your request, advising that **part one** of your request was transferred to Parliamentary Service and Ministerial Services (under the Department of Internal Affairs) as the information requested is more closely aligned with their functions.

You were also invited to clarify **part two** of your request for information related to hardship application withdrawals and you were provided with links to Inland Revenue's website where KiwiSaver statistics datasets are regularly published.

On 19 September 2024 Inland Revenue wrote to you again as a reminder of its invitation for you to clarify the second part of your request. No response was received from you.

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

### **Information publicly available**

Inland Revenue has interpreted **part two** of your request for information about hardship application withdrawals, as that which relates to Kiwisaver withdrawals. As the information is publicly available on Inland Revenue's website at <https://www.ird.govt.nz/about-us/tax-statistics/kiwisaver/datasets>, your request is refused under section 18(d) of the OIA.

### **Right of review**

If you disagree with my decision on your OIA request, you can ask an Inland Revenue review officer to review my decision. To ask for an internal review, please email the Commissioner of Inland Revenue at: [commissionerscorrespondence@ird.govt.nz](mailto:commissionerscorrespondence@ird.govt.nz).

Alternatively, under section 28(3) of the OIA, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision. You can contact the office of the Ombudsman by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz).

If you choose to have an internal review, you can still ask the Ombudsman for a review.

### **Publishing of OIA response**

We intend to publish our response to your request on Inland Revenue's website ([ird.govt.nz](http://ird.govt.nz)) as this information may be of interest to other members of the public. This letter, with your personal details removed, may be published in its entirety. Publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the OIA's purpose of enabling more effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies and promoting the accountability of officials.

Yours sincerely



Thomas Allen

**Domain Lead, Governance & Ministerial Services**