



# MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

*Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora*

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- 6 AUG 2013

Mr Byron Clark  
[fyi-request-966-d380cfa6@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-966-d380cfa6@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Clark

Thank you for your email of 28 June 2013 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

*How much money has been paid out to McDonalds restaurants since the Ministry began paying wage subsidies for hiring beneficiaries in 2009?*

Work and Income, a service of the Ministry of Social Development, offers recruitment and employment services to help people find and remain in employment through the Job Streams package. Job Streams provides Skills for Industry, which is industry-focused training for specific employment opportunities and funding is dependent on the needs of the client; and Flexi-wage which provides a wage subsidies to employers who employ Work and Income clients.

I can advise that from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2013, 836 individuals gained employment at McDonald's restaurants through the assistance of Work and Income.

Of these, 726 people were placed with McDonald's through Work and Income listed vacancies, which were not subsidised.

In addition, 110 clients were placed by Work and Income through the now ceased Skill Investment Subsidy (which invested in disadvantaged job seekers by making a temporary contribution to their wages and training to enable them to access and maintain employment) or through the Flexi-wage subsidy. The total amount paid to McDonald's in wage subsidies between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2013 was \$272,574.

To put that amount into context, it is an average of 27.5 people per year who have moved into full time permanent employment and are no longer dependant on a main benefit.

I note that some McDonald's restaurants are listed under their individual franchise name with Work and Income and as such, some placements of our clients will not be captured.

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I hope you find this information about wage subsidies paid to McDonald's helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman  
Office of the Ombudsman  
PO Box 10-152  
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debbie Power', with a stylized, cursive script.

Debbie Power  
**Deputy Chief Executive Work and Income**