



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

03 NOV 2016

Dear

On 29 September 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following:

- *Please provide the complete list of "incapacity types" and any written communications with the Minister for Disability Issues or her Office 1 April 2016-30 July 2016 regarding the same.*

Read codes were introduced to the revised Work and Income medical certificate from 2007. Since 2007, the medical certificates have recorded incapacities for clients receiving Job Seeker – Health Condition, Injury or Disability and Supported Living Payment.

As you may be aware, there are more than 60,000 read codes which New Zealand General Practitioners use. The Ministry uses a subset of approximately 40,000 of these codes and can have up to three diagnostic categories on a medical certificate. ACC has a full list of read codes publically available at: www.acc.co.nz/for-providers/lodge-and-manage-claims/prv00037. Attached to this response is a document containing the subset of read codes that the Ministry uses.

The Ministry can advise there has been no written communication with the Minister for Disability Issues or her Office regarding "incapacity types" or read codes for the time period you have specified. As such, your request for this information is refused under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act as this information does not exist.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public after ten working days. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and

the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ruth Bound'.

Ruth Bound
Deputy Chief Executive, Service Delivery