



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

09 AUG 2017

Dear

On 6 June 2017, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *Any research/information you may have that identifies or estimates how many beneficiaries are not taking up their full entitlements and estimates / identifies the value of those entitlements and or provides information about why those entitlements are not being accessed - a list of any documents over the last five years.*

Below is a list of documents that fall in scope of your request.

| <b>Date</b>     | <b>Title</b>   |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 May 2017      | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with an apparent TAS deficit as at end of March 2017'</i>                                    |
| 3 February 2017 | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with an apparent TAS deficit as at end of December 2016'</i>                                 |
| 31 October 2016 | <i>'Report-back on measures to improve take-up of in-work financial assistance'</i>  |
| 13 October 2016 | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with an apparent TAS deficit as at end of September 2016'</i>                                |
| 12 July 2016    | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with an apparent TAS deficit as at end of June 2016'</i>                                     |
| 14 April 2016   | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with an apparent TAS deficit as at end of March 2016'</i>                                    |
| 5 February 2016 | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with an apparent TAS deficit as at end of December 2015'</i>                                 |
| 5 February 2016 | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with an apparent TAS deficit as at end of September 2015'</i>                                |
| 11 August 2015  | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with an apparent TAS deficit as at 26 June 2015'</i>   |
| 7 August 2015   | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with an apparent TAS deficit as at 01 April 15'</i>  |
| 4 February 2015 | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with known accommodation and disability allowance costs as at the end of September 2014'</i> |

| <b>Date</b>       | <b>Title</b>   |
|-------------------|--|
| 17 September 2014 | <i>'What impact are digital services having on welfare/ income related benefit take-up?'</i>                               |
| 19 September 2014 | <i>'Estimated Impacts from Simplification'</i>   |
| 16 October 2013   | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with known accommodation and disability allowance costs as at the end of September 2013'</i> |
| 23 April 2013     | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with known accommodation and disability allowance costs as at the end of March 2013'</i>     |
| 22 January 2013   | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with known accommodation and disability allowance costs as at the end of December 2012'</i>  |
| 4 October 2012    | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with known accommodation and disability allowance costs as at the end of September 2012'</i> |
| 5 July 2012       | <i>'Working age beneficiaries with known accommodation and disability allowance costs as at the end of June 2012'</i>      |

The Ministry provides the National Beneficiaries Advocacy Consultative Group with the quarterly reports listed above which shows data regarding clients with an apparent eligibility to Temporary Additional Support (TAS) based on the accommodation and disability related costs recorded on their file, and of those, who are not in receipt of TAS.

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 shortly. 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](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding documents relating to beneficiaries not taking up their full entitlement, 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth Bound', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ruth Bound  
**Deputy Chief Executive, Service Delivery**