



20 NOV 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

On 30 September 2019, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *The total number of job seekers?*
- *How many have stated they are skilled to work in hospitality, chef, restaurant managers, hotel managers etc?*

Jobseeker Support is a temporary benefit paid while clients look for work, are in training for work, or are unable to work due to a health condition, injury or disability. More information on Jobseeker Support is available here: www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/jobseeker-support.html.

The Ministry works with all job seekers registered with job search services and refers a selection of shortlisted applicants, who are best suited for the position, to an employer. The employer selects the person best suited for the position.

To assist with upskilling clients in the hospitality area the Ministry has partnered with external providers to offer training programmes. One such initiative is the Fast Track Partnership Programme developed with AccorHotels and Tourism Industry Aotearoa in 2017. This offers a five-week programme in hospitality skills and training. The programme has already had strong success helping participating clients into employment following completion.

I understand that Kristian South, Senior Media Advisor responded to your first question by way of email on 30 September 2019.

For your reference, as at the end of September 2019 there were 8,182 working age Jobseeker Support work ready clients who had disclosed hospitality industry related experience. There were 72,420 working age Jobseeker Support work ready clients as at end of September 2019.

The Ministry considers those with experience in the following professions to be included in the hospitality industry:

- Sales and/or Marketing Manager
- Restaurant or Tavern Manager
- Other Lodging Services Manager
- Other Catering Services Manager
- University and Higher Education Lecturer and/or Tutor
- Hotel and/or Motel Receptionist
- Receptionist/Information Clerk

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- Housekeeper (Not Private)
- Chef
- Cook
- Bartender
- Waiter/Waitress
- Catering Counter Assistant
- Kitchenhand
- Usher and Cloakroom Attendant
- Baker
- Bakers Assistant
- Building Caretaker
- Hotel Porter

Please note, clients' previous work experience is recorded in the Ministry's IT systems. Some clients report more than one type of work experience and are included if any of their recorded work experiences fit these occupation classifications. A person's recorded work experience may not represent their job aspirations or work skills. The Australia and New Zealand Standard Occupation Classification Job Descriptions have been used to indicate what job titles are in the hospitality industry.

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 and any attached documents 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.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding Jobseeker Support clients with hospitality work experience, 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 or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Bridget Saunders
Manager, Issue Resolution, Service Delivery