



26 February 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 25 January 2024, requesting all communication from the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) regarding the proposed 'Jobseeker Benefit Traffic Light System.'

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) and can advise that the first part of your request, for email communications from 2023 to present from Ministry people leaders regarding the 'Jobseeker Benefit Traffic Light System', is refused under section 18(e) of the Act. This document does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

Information relating to the 'Jobseeker Benefit Traffic Light System' is contained in the following reports that were prepared for the Minister for Social Development and Employment:

- *Initial Briefing on Income Support*, to Honourable Louise Upston, Minister for Social Development and Employment, 29 November 2023
- *Support provided to children and young people*, to Honourable Louise Upston, Minister for Social Development and Employment, 7 December 2023.

The content of these reports is withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials. The premature release of this information is likely to prejudice the ability of the Government to consider advice. This would disrupt the wider public interest in the effective operation of government.

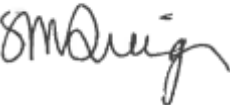
We note the Ministry is currently working on advice for the Minister, which will be focused on supporting people who are able to work to enter the workforce.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

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 my decision on your request, 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

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Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services