



13 April 2026

Tēnā koe

### **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your request of 12 March 2026 about the information the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) can share with prospective employers and contracted service providers.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on your request set out below.

*1. Sharing information with a prospective employer to help a client find work.*

A client, or their partner, who receives a work-tested main benefit may have full or part-time work obligations, work preparation obligations, or social obligations depending on their situation. The obligations vary depending on a client's main benefit type.

Where the Ministry identifies a client may be suitable for a role, the Ministry will share information with the employer relevant to the job opportunity such as the client's CV and contact information. A staff member will discuss the opportunity with the client, including whether their details can be shared.

Clients on Jobseeker Support receive the Jobseeker Obligations form (M111-OBS) to complete and sign. Page 4 of the form advise that client's information may be shared with a prospective employer. The form can be found here: <https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/documents/forms/jobseeker-support-obligations-and-privacy-form.pdf>

*2. Sharing information with contracted service providers*

The information the Ministry passes on to contracted providers is to enable them to proactively engage with clients. The information the Ministry supplies to contracted providers should be limited to client's name, phone number, and email address.

Before the Ministry shares client's information with a contracted provider, the Ministry should notify the client.

The contracted provider is responsible for managing the information in accordance with the provision of the Privacy Act 2020.

### **Ministry's privacy resources**

The Ministry's privacy notice outlines how client's information is collected, used, and managed. You can find a copy of the notice here:

<https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/about-work-and-income/privacy-notice/index.html>

Where a person has questions or concerns about the information on their Ministry file they can:

- complete the [online form](#) (select the 'Privacy Act request' option)
- email the Privacy Officer at [PrivacyOfficer@msd.govt.nz](mailto:PrivacyOfficer@msd.govt.nz), or
- use the '[Request My Info Tool](#)' on the Privacy Commissioner website.

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](mailto: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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp.



Anna Graham  
**General Manager**  
**Ministerial and Executive Services**