



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

28 April 2026

Tēnā koe

### **Official Information Act Request**

Thank you for your email of 30 March 2026 to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry), requesting:

*how much in total is paid from NZ Super to care providers.*

*I am assume that this amount is after the tax deducted (i.e. the calculation is:*

*Gross NZ Super*

*Less tax deducted*

*Less personal allowance*

*Net paid per person*

*Times total number of person's who qualify for the subsidy.*

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I have interpreted your request to refer to New Zealand Superannuation (NZ Super) recipients that are also receiving Residential Care Subsidy (RCS). It is important to note that not all NZ Super recipient receives RCS and not all NZ Super receiving RCS have automatic payment set up for care providers. There may be people receiving overseas pension or Veteran's pension that also receives RCS.

As at end of February 2026, there is currently an approximate total of 17,905 NZ Super recipients that are also receiving RCS. To provide the information you are requesting, the Ministry will have to review individual files and determine each circumstance and how the payment to care providers are made. Your request is therefore refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as the information requested cannot be made without substantial manual collation or research. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information

requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

The personal allowance rate is \$65.16 gross or \$58.34 net. The current personal allowance rates can be found here: [www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/deskfile/extra-help-information/residential-care-subsidy-tables/personal-allowances-current-01.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/deskfile/extra-help-information/residential-care-subsidy-tables/personal-allowances-current-01.html).

The net amount paid per person (NZ Super less personal allowance and tax deducted) will depend on each person's circumstances (single sharing, or married rate).

More information can be found here:

- [www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/extra-help/residential-care-subsidy/benefit-or-pension-contribution.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/extra-help/residential-care-subsidy/benefit-or-pension-contribution.html)
- [www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/extra-help/residential-care-subsidy/personal-allowance-01.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/extra-help/residential-care-subsidy/personal-allowance-01.html)

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 this response, 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**