



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

**29 JUN 2020**

Dr Adam Ward  
Dot Loves Data  
[Adam@dotlovesdata.com](mailto:Adam@dotlovesdata.com)

Tēnā koe Dr Adam Ward

On 3 June 2020, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Please could you provide a data set specifying the number of people claiming the following types of benefits by 2017 Area Unit Boundary for the quarters ending March 2020 and June 2020:*
  - *Job Seeker Support (JS Related)*
  - *Sole Parent Support (SPS Related)*
  - *Supported Living Payment (SLP Related)*
  - *Other benefits*

This letter is to advise you that the Ministry has received your request, however requires more time to respond to this request. In accordance with section 15(1) and 15A of the Act, the Ministry's decision will be with you no later than 11 August 2020.

The reason for the extension is that your request is for a large quantity of information and it will take longer than the 20-working day time limit to collate the material you have requested and assess whether any interest might be prejudiced by its release.

Additionally, you have asked for data from the June 2020 quarter, which has not been collated yet. Therefore, for this specific request, the Ministry has agreed to extend this request in order to provide the complete dataset requested. However, please note, granting a request of this size this will be managed on a case-by-case basis depending on the Ministry's resources at the time of the request. Due to the size of the request, the Ministry will be charging you, as collating this information requires considerable time and labour. You will hear from the Ministry in due course regarding the cost of this request.

Please note, that the Ministry also reserves the right to decline future requests of this nature under 18(f) of the Act for substantial manual collation if the time and resources are unavailable. This is because requests of this size and quantity have a significant impact on the Ministry's ability to carry out normal operations.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision to extend your request for benefit data broken down by 2017 Area Unit Boundary, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz)

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Short', with a stylized, cursive script.

Stephanie Short  
**Manager, Official and Parliamentary Information  
Ministerial and Executive Services**