08 July 2015

Attention: Mr Brendan Boyle — The Chief Executive

Re: Requests under sections 12 and 16 of the Official Information Act 1982 — for specified information to be made available

Dear Mr Brendan Boyle, dear staff at the Ministry for Social Development

Please accept my request for the disclosure of the following specified information — under sections 12 and 16 of the Official Information Act 1982.

1. Information in the form of a detailed break-down of the main benefit type Jobseeker Support, into the separate components or parts of the base benefit, that are allocated to cover costs for food, clothing, accommodation, transport/travel, electricity, water, phone costs, social spending, and so forth, based on calculated average costs a benefit is intended to cover.

2. Information in the form of a detailed break-down of the main benefit type Supported Living Payment, into the separate components or parts of the base benefit, that are allocated to cover costs for food, clothing, accommodation, transport/travel, electricity, water, phone costs, social spending, and so forth, based on calculated average costs a benefit is intended to cover.
3. Information in the form of a detailed break-down of the main benefit type Sole Parent Support, into the separate components or parts of the base benefit, that are allocated to cover costs for food, clothing, accommodation, transport/travel, electricity, water, phone costs, social spending, and so forth, based on calculated average costs a benefit is intended to cover.

I am aware of additional supplements and allowances being available as further assistance, like the accommodation supplement, disability allowance and temporary additional support, which are covering additional costs, which cannot be covered by the base benefit.

But I know that the base rates are based on calculations for basic, average costs of living, and I seek the details of these calculations, for each single, usual cost type or category.

The above requested specified information is sought to be made available under the Official Information Act 1982 within the specified time frame of 20 working days.

I kindly and respectfully ask that the information is made available by way of a sufficiently detailed written response, containing the relevant information. Otherwise it can also be made available by way of equally good quality computer generated printouts containing the information or part thereof.

Thank you for your acknowledgment and appreciated co-operation.

Yours sincerely

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