



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

29 JUN 2021

Sophie

Fyi-request-15698-ee0b04c8@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Sophie

Thank you for your email dated 7 June 2021 regarding Jobseeker Support deductions by the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry). I am responding on behalf of the Chief Executive.

You have asked what the Ministry practice is when someone receives a gift in the form of a lump-sum and this is a one-off.

So long as the gift is a one-off, it would not be charged as income and no deduction is expected to be made against the Jobseeker Support. You can read about this here: www.workandincome.govt.nz/on-a-benefit/tell-us/income/one-off-payment/gifts-one-off.html.

However, clients are required to let Work and Income know about any lump sum payments they receive as it may affect any extra help they receive, such as Accommodation Supplement or Temporary Additional Support. Additionally, a client would be obliged to inform Work and Income if they invested the lump sum and earned income, such as interest or dividend, as this would be treated as income.

If you or anyone you know requires further assistance, particularly with unexpected or emergency costs, I would encourage testing your eligibility for further assistance online through MyMSD at the following link: <https://my.msd.govt.nz/>. People can also contact Work and Income on 0800 559 009 to discuss their situation further.

Thank you for taking the time to write. I trust you find this information helpful.

Nāku noa, nā

Janet Green
Acting General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services