



13 OCT 2014

Donna Wynd
Child Poverty Action Group
donna@cpag.org.nz

Dear Ms Wynd

Thank you for your letter of 25 September 2014 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, a number of questions relating to information on the number of children lifted out of poverty.

This letter is to advise that your request has been transferred in the Minister for Social Development.

The Minister for Social Development will respond to your request for:

The quoted figure of 30,000 being lifted out of poverty in the last couple of years.

(<http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/checkpoint/audio/20148965/poverty-campaigners-calling-for-more-spending,-not-tax-cuts>)

Can you please provide the evidence upon which this claim was made?

the pre-election announcement saying "over the past two years 30,000 children have gone from living in a benefit-dependent home to a working one" (<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PA1409/S00251/national-to-reduce-benefit-numbers-by-25-per-cent.htm>).

Can you please provide the data that upon which this claim was made?

In a pre-election interview the Minister for Social Development stated: "The research has shown us with the investment approach that there's a couple of real touch points of people churning on and off benefits. One at 6 months and the other is between 12 and 14 months..."

This is because your request is more closely aligned with the functions of the Minister. Section 14(b)(ii) of the Official Information Act 1982 allows me to transfer any request that is believed to be more closely aligned with the functions of another department, organisation or Minister of the Crown.

The Ministry will respond directly to you for your request for:

Can you please provide any research MSD has done since the first rollout of the government's welfare reforms in 2010 showing whether parents who have left a benefit to take up paid employment are better off financially; and also research showing whether the children of parents who have left a benefit for paid employment enjoy better outcomes as a result of this?

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my decision to transfer your request by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
P O Box 10-152
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely



Elisabeth Brunt
General Manager Ministerial and Executive Services