



10 October 2024

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Tēnā koe Cooper O'Neil

### **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your email of 12 September 2024, requesting copies of the following documents relating to the residential care subsidy (RCS):

- *A copy of the financial means assessment form (Residential Care Subsidy).*
- *Financial means assessment (Residential Care Subsidy).*
- *Means assessment of assets (Residential Care Subsidy).*
- *Means assessment of income (Residential Care Subsidy).*
- *Residential Care Subsidy Asset verification procedures.*
- *Residential Care Subsidy Asset verification procedures.*

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on your request set out below.

Attached please find a copy of the RCS application form. Note the Ministry uses this one form, which is subject to change at any time.

Please note that the RCS application form can only be given to a client after they have had an appointment and been assessed by a Needs Assessor from the Needs Assessment Service Coordination (NASC) agency funded by Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora. The Needs Assessor will:

- Check an applicant meets Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora criteria.
- Determine the level of care needed.
- Complete a Needs Assessment Certificate.

Once a needs assessment confirms a client requires long term care, the Needs Assessor will complete the Needs Assessment Certificate (page three and four of the RCS application form) and provide the rest of the form to the client/and or their family. At that stage, the completed form is submitted to the Ministry, who undertake a Financial Means Assessment. If the subsidy is granted, the Ministry then advises Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora of eligibility and the appropriate rate payable.

Information about the RCS, including details of the process we follow, is available on the Ministry's website here:

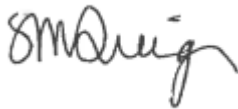
[www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/residential-care-subsidy.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/residential-care-subsidy.html).

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 my decision on your request, 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. 

Magnus O'Neill  
**General Manager**  
**Ministerial and Executive Services**