



15 FEB 2019

Gregory Soar
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Tēnā koe Mr Soar

Thank you for your email dated 15 January 2019 to OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz asking about time frames for housing costs. I will respond to your questions in turn.

Is there any time limit within which one must present accommodation costs, being maintenance and or repairs of personally owned current accommodation, to have those costs included as accommodation costs?

I can advise that there is no time within which costs related to maintenance and/or repairs of personally owned current accommodation, must be presented to have those costs included as accommodation costs. Increases to the rate of payment of Accommodation Supplement should be processed from the actual date of changed costs. However, for any reductions, suspensions or cancellations, a client should notify Work and Income within 14 days unless there is a good and sufficient reason.

The following link will provide you with information about the process for reviewing Accommodation Supplement: <https://workandincome.govt.nz/map/income-support/extra-help/accommodation-supplement/changes-and-reviews-accommodation-supplement/change-in-accommodation-01.html>.

If there are time limits for the above costs being applied for as accommodation costs please supply me ALL relevant legislation, Ministerial direction or any other information making that limit clear to applicants please.

The relevant legislation can be found at the following links:
<http://legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2018/0032/latest/DLM6783340.html>
<http://legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2018/0032/latest/DLM6783773.html>.

Thank you again for taking the time to write. I hope this information is helpful.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Elisabeth Brunt
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services