



13 August 2025



Ref: OIA-2024/25-1029

Dear

Official Information Act request relating to documents regarding Welfare that Works and Target 5

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 3 July 2025. You requested:

I am requesting the following information under the Official Information Act (OIA):

- *Any reports, briefings, memos, advice, meeting materials, and other official documents that have been produced by DPMC since October 2023 relating to:*
 - o *The Welfare that Works reforms*
 - o *The Government's target to reduce the number of people receiving Jobseeker Support*

Please exclude correspondence – I am only after documents. I would like to receive any draft versions of the above documents where available, including documents relating to the development of the target.

The time frame for responding to your request was extended under section 15A of the Act by 9 working days because it necessitated a search through a large quantity of information before a decision could be made on the request. Following this extension, I am now in a position to respond.

We have interpreted your request to be for documents that the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) has produced that relate to the *Welfare that Works reforms and the Government's target to reduce the number of people receiving Jobseeker Support*. Many of the documents held by DPMC were produced by DPMC but also include information that relate to the remaining eight Government Targets. This information is not in scope of your request and is either withheld or marked accordingly. In addition, some of the data being released to you was provided to DPMC by the Ministry of Social Development for Target 5, which was then included in the final document produced by DPMC. Draft versions of this data are not held by DPMC.

If you seek information produced by other government agencies as it relates to the Welfare that Works reforms or the Government's Target to reduce the number of people receiving Jobseeker Support please go to the Ministry of Justice OIA directory for contact details:

[Directory of Official Information | New Zealand Ministry of Justice](#)

Information being released

Please find attached copies of the following documents:

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	1 July 2024	Central Agency Delivery Plan Assessment – 5. Fewer people on Jobseeker Support [FINAL 4 JULY]	Release
2	19 July 2024	Briefing: Progress on the Implementation of Government Targets Attachment A Attachment B	Release with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) Some information not in scope Withheld under s9(2)(g)(i) Not in scope
3	September 2024	Government Targets Quarterly Report for September 2024 Attachment A (apart from Target 5) Attachment B	Release Some information not in scope Withheld under section 18(d) Not in scope
4	September 2024	DRAFT September Target 5 Factsheet	Release
5	December 2024	DRAFT December 2025 Target 5 Factsheet	Release
6	31 December 2024	Progress of Government Targets	Release with some information withheld under sections 9(2)(f)(iv) and 9(2)(g)(i) Some information not in scope
7	14 February 2025	DRAFT: Briefing Progress on Government Targets for the Quarter ending December 2024	Release – some information not in scope
8	14 February 2025	FINAL Briefing: Progress on Government Targets for the Quarter ending December 2024	Release with some information withheld under s9(2)(f)(iv)
9	28 February 2025	Government Targets Quarterly Report for December 2024 Attachment A	Release, some information not in scope See publicly available table
10	21 May 2025	Government Targets Quarterly Report for March 2025	Release, some information not in scope

I have decided to release the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- s9(2)(a), to protect personal privacy
- s9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials
- s9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.

Some information is not in scope of your request and is marked accordingly.

In addition, draft versions of documents have been provided as above where a draft was created. Where appropriate excerpts have been provided as per section 16(1)(e) of the Act. These excerpts are also taken from any draft material produced by DPMC and a table of excerpts is set out below.

Excerpts being provided:

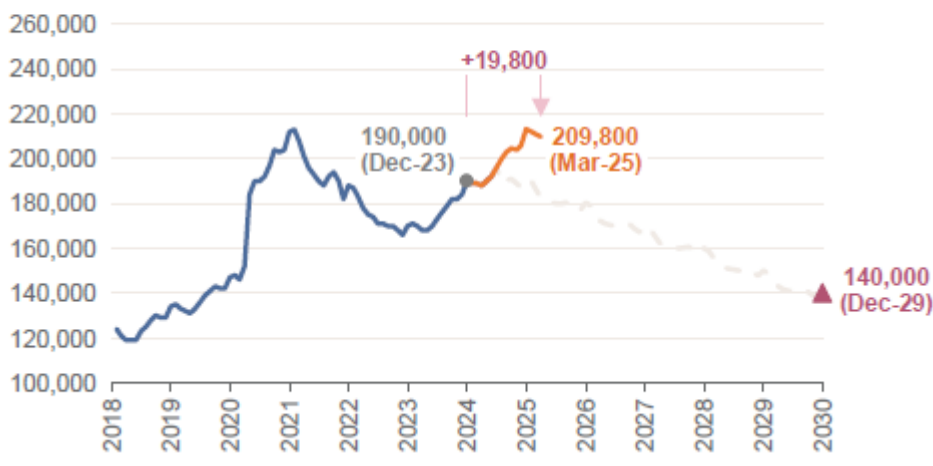
Item	Date	Document title	Excerpt and/or decision
1	19 July 2024	Attachment A DRAFT Cabinet Paper - Government Targets Quarterly Report June 24	<i>Target 5- Fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit (declining) – economic conditions are increasing flows of people onto Jobseeker Support while exits remain relatively flat. Improvement is not expected until economic conditions improve, and welfare system interventions are embedded.</i>
2	2 August 2024	Cabinet Paper - Government Targets Quarterly Report June 24	<i>Target 5- Fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit (declining) – economic conditions are increasing flows of people onto Jobseeker Support while exits remain relatively flat. Improvement is not expected until economic conditions improve, and welfare system interventions are embedded.</i>
3	8 May 2025	Progress on Government Targets for Quarter 1 ending March 2025	Excerpts (diagrams) provided below and Item 11 of the release documents. Release with some information not in scope.

Excerpts from Briefing: Progress on Government Targets for Quarter 1 ending March 2025:

5 Fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit: 50,000 fewer people on Jobseeker Support benefit (140,000 people).

213,300 (Dec 2024) 209,800 (Mar 2025) -3,500

Target 5 Jobseeker: Slight improvement of -3,500 since the last reporting quarter but remains 19,800 above baseline. A reduction of 69,800 is required to meet the target.



Information publicly available

The following information is also covered by your request and is publicly available at the following website addresses:

Item	Date	Document description	Website address
1	25 March 2024	Setting Targets to Deliver for New Zealanders	Proactive Release SOU-24-SUB-0009: Setting Targets to Deliver for New Zealanders - April 2024 - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
2	14 May 2024	OIA-2023/24-0682	Response to Official Information Act request OIA-2023/24-0682: Papers and advice around targets and delivery - May 2024 - Delivery Unit; Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
3	30 August 2024	Government Targets Quarterly Report for June 2024	Proactive Release CAB-24-SUB-0345: Government Targets Quarterly Report for June 2024 - October 2024 - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Item	Date	Document description	Website address
			Minister and Cabinet (DPMC)
4	September 2024	Government Targets Quarterly Report for September 2024 - Attachment A	Government Targets Quarterly Reports - September 2024 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC)
5	16 October 2024	Government Targets Quarterly Reports - June 2024	Government Targets Quarterly Reports - June 2024 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC)
6	25 October 2024	Government Targets Quarterly Reports - September 2024	Government Targets Quarterly Reports - September 2024 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC)
7	15 November 2024	Attachment A - Target Quarterly Report Summary and Fact Sheets for September 2024	https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/publications/government-targets-quarterly-reports-september-2024 Factsheet - Target 5 - Fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit - September 2024
8	28 February 2025	Government Targets Quarterly Reports - December 2024	Government Targets Quarterly Reports - December 2024 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) Factsheet - Target 5 - Fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit - December 2024
9	21 May 2025	Government Targets Quarterly Reports - March 2025	Government Targets Quarterly Reports - March 2025 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) Factsheet - Target 5 - Fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit - March 2025

Accordingly, I have refused your request for the documents listed in the above table under section 18(d) of the Act – the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

In relation to copies of draft versions of documents where final versions have been made publicly available, given the extent of work required to collate and assess the information, this part of your request is refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as processing it would unreasonably impact DPMCs ability to carry out its day-to-day operations.

We have considered options such as extending the timeframe for response or imposing a charge, but neither would sufficiently alleviate the administrative burden involved.

Information to be withheld

Item	Date	Document title	Decision
1	2 August 2024	Briefing: Government Targets Cabinet	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(g)(i)

Item	Date	Document title	Decision
		Consideration and Public Release	
2	19 August 2024	Aide Memoire: DPMC Officials Meeting on Government Targets	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(g)(i)
3	30 August 2024	Briefing: Government Targets Cabinet Consideration and Public Release	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(g)(i)
4	25 October 2024	Briefing: Progress of Government Targets for quarter ending September 2024	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv)
5	24 March 2025	Aide Memoire: Target 5 - Jobseeker Support Meeting	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(g)(i)
6	8 May 2025	Progress on Government Targets for Quarter 1 ending March 2025	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) and 9(2)(g)(i)

Also identified as relevant to your request are some briefings provided by the DPMC Policy Advisory Group to the Prime Minister that relate to the Welfare that Works reforms. These briefings are provided to the Prime Minister in confidence to support him in his role as leader of the Government and chair of Cabinet. These briefings are withheld in their entirety under the following sections of the Act:

- s9(2)(f)(ii), to maintain collective and individual ministerial responsibility
- s9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials
- s9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act. No public interest has been identified that would be sufficient to outweigh the reasons for withholding that information.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act. This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Janine Smith
Deputy Chief Executive, Policy

Central Agency Delivery Plan Assessment – 5. Fewer people on Jobseeker Support [FINAL 4 JULY]

This document is an assessment of the delivery plans for targets based on central agency reviews. It is used to inform overall reporting on the progress of targets. Timing is indicated as [now] = now before delivery plan is finalised in July 24, [next] = next iteration of the delivery plan < 6 months, [future] = for a future iteration of the delivery plan.

<p>Summary</p>	<p>The delivery plan has a structured approach with five areas of action (summarised), more frequent checking, ensuring in the short-term job seekers face real incentives to shift to work, putting New Zealanders in the front of the queue for jobs and deploying MSD’s range of employment interventions, strengthening the incentives and tools available in the long term. There is comprehensive set of initiatives that include a mixture of implementation of new government policies, operational changes and programmes.</p> <p>Despite MSD having a good evidence base there is more work required to ensure that the defined initiatives will lead to achievement of the targeted performance. This includes developing a comprehensive pipeline of initiatives that could be considered in the future. The cost/benefit of all initiatives needs to be defined with ongoing evaluation/monitoring to ensure the ones with highest value are progressed. Deliberately the focus of the plan is work ready jobseekers and there is not yet enough detail on initiatives to address jobseekers with health conditions which will be important for achieving the target.</p> <p>Economic conditions will have a significant impact on the target. Other labour market related policies, such as immigration, also will have an impact on placing people in work.</p> <p>MSD has most of the resources for delivery through its own staff or contracted services. It has very good operational data and processes to respond quickly and optimise delivery</p>		
<p>Area</p>	<p>Prompting Questions</p>	<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Advice</p>
<p>Target, estimated trajectory and supporting indicators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a clear description of the target, estimated performance trajectory and supporting indicators? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The trajectory has been defined with a range of supporting indicators. High quality operational data is routinely available at a granular level to support reporting and drive performance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include existing measures that show the broader employment system dynamics such as; churn within JS, immigration policies (such as number of RSE workers), where people go after leaving JS and if there are any corresponding increases/decreases in other benefits. [next]



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are data and insights available to understand and drive performance? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is not sufficient data about people of JS-HCD which is important to address to achieve the target in the long term. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include measures to understand the number of people on JS-HCD and how they are coming on and off benefit. [future] The impact of the target on other parts of MSD's delivery should be exposed to make visible any unintended consequences. [next]
Enduring delivery logic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the underlying intervention logic that will drive performance over the long-term clear? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is noted that the initial focus on the plan is JSWR clients who are close to the labour market and this shapes the focus of this initial plan. The broad intervention logic is clear and well-articulated with prevention and early intervention, work preparation and work placement and sustainability. Getting people into sustained employment is the main engine for target delivery but although it may be clear internally the plan does not include much detail on how private sector would be engaged to employ people on JS and the key initiatives to do this. The Employment Investment Strategy is a key piece of work to inform the target and this needs to have a solid analysis of the factors driving people to JS, the clients and broader system required to reduce the number of people on JS. It is noted that achieving target has a significant dependency on the state of the economy, immigration settings and private/public sector engaging with MSD and providing jobs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more detail on the initiatives within the broader employment system to provide opportunities for work for JS clients. [next] The timing and relative contribution of each of the initiatives to the targeted performance needs to be defined explicitly. [next] Once the Employment Investment Strategy is agreed use this to shape the initiatives for the target and review the indicators to measure progress to achieve the strategy. [next] Be more explicit about how the external factors (risks) will be managed, particularly immigration and demand side challenges. [next]
Initiatives, milestones and dependencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have key initiatives and key delivery milestones (with a focus on the more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a coherent portfolio of initiatives which have been phased out over the next 2-3 years. They include a mixture of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each of the initiatives need to have explicit deliverables and milestones to be able to monitor progress. [next]



	<p>immediate actions) been defined?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are key risks to delivery identified and how they will be managed and mitigated? • Have the major dependencies (e.g. decisions required from ministers, legislation, support for other agencies) been identified? • Are policy settings fit for purpose and if not has the plan to make policy decisions or legislative changes been identified? 	<p>implementation of new government policies, operational changes and programmes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSD has an effective operational delivery capability to be able to understand performance data and course correct where required in a relatively short timeframe. • There are dependencies on other agencies services particularly mental health. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the portfolio with a longer term and broader pipeline of policy and operational <u>options</u> for achieving the target, including the estimated costs and any associated savings to benefit expenditure. [next] • Consider how the risk relating to dependency on universal services (such as mental health services to a specific cohort) can be managed by some form of contracting with the contributing agency to ensure availability. [next]
<p>Innovation and best practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have best practices and benchmarks (from international and private sector experience) has been considered in the selection and implementation of initiatives? • Have innovative approaches have been considered to achieve a step change in performance? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan does not articulate how proposed interventions are consistent with evidence or best place. • Other jurisdictions do not have a combination of benefit and employment operations, so benchmarking is not straight forward. 	



<p>Costs and benefits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the high-level costs of the initiatives, including any reprioritisation of resources been defined? • Is it clear the contribution of the initiatives to performance leading to target delivery? • Is there an approach to evaluation of the initiatives defined? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the plan it is not clear the contribution of the initiatives to the targeted performance and their cost and therefore it's not possible to understand the value of the initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a view of cost of the initiatives, sources of funding/resourcing including any reprioritisation impacts [next] • Be clear when an action is funded from baseline, what the trade-offs in other areas have been. [next] • For each action/initiative define the approach to evaluation / monitoring to ensure ongoing performance and contribution to targets [next]
<p>Delivery structures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it clear who is accountable and responsible at the agency level? Who is responsible for each initiative? • Is it clear who is delivering, including other contributing ministers and agencies? • Are there processes or structures (governance) in place to ensure progress is managed and assured? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The delivery of the structure of the target is mostly with MSD organisation which provides a direct line of sight from the Minister to delivery. • The main contributing Ministers and agencies are represented in the Labour Market Ministers group which has a CE and DCE group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given the dependency on wider policy issues – such as immigration and education be explicit about the role an intersection with the Labour Ministers Group, CE's and supporting functions [next]
<p>Capability and capacity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the critical workforce implications for the implementation of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The workforce is predominately the employed staff of MSD and staff at NGO's who have contracts with MSD. There is not specific view provided of how the workforce would need to change through the process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make visible the workforce plan that details implications of the target for the workforce (including providers) and any changes in the required to achieve the target. [next]



	<p>initiatives been identified?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have any changes in workforce capacity and capability been defined?	<p>and the risk of refocus on to the target from other core activity.</p>	
Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is it clear who needs to be engaged, why and when?• Is there a plan and processes for stakeholder engagement and communications?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Effective engagement with the community, employers and MSD staff is recognised as critical for achieving the target.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make visible the communication and engagement plan which covers the target and initiatives. [next]

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



Coversheet

Briefing: Progress on the Implementation of Government Targets

Date:	19/07/2024	Report No:	DPMC – 2024/25 - 63
		Security Level:	IN-CONFIDENCE UNCLASSIFIED
		Priority level:	Medium

	Action sought	Deadline
Prime Minister	agree to recs	23 July 24

Name	Position	Telephone	1 st Contact
Stephen Crombie	Executive Director Delivery Unit	s9(2)(a)	✓
Maari Porter	Chief Advisor Delivery Unit	s9(2)(a)	

Departments/agencies consulted on Briefing
The Treasury, Public Service Commission and Social Investment Agency.

Minister's Office

Status:

Signed

Withdrawn

Comment for agency

Attachments: Yes

Briefing

Progress on the implementation of Government Targets

To: Prime Minister			
Date	19/07/2024	Security Level	IN-CONFIDENCE UNCLASSIFIED

Purpose

1. This briefing provides you with an update on the progress of delivery planning and the first set of target quarterly reports for Strategy Committee (STR) consideration on 30 July.

Recommendations

We recommend that you:

1. **note** that central agency assessments of delivery plans and arrangements provide a foundation for delivery for targets, but there are gaps in the plans that need to be addressed to provide confidence for medium-longer term delivery.
2. **note** that lead ministers have approved their Government Target Quarterly Reports for the period to 30 June 2024, and these are ready to be considered by STR.

Not in Scope



Not in Scope



Stephen Crombie
Executive Director
Delivery Unit

19/07/2024

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon
Prime Minister

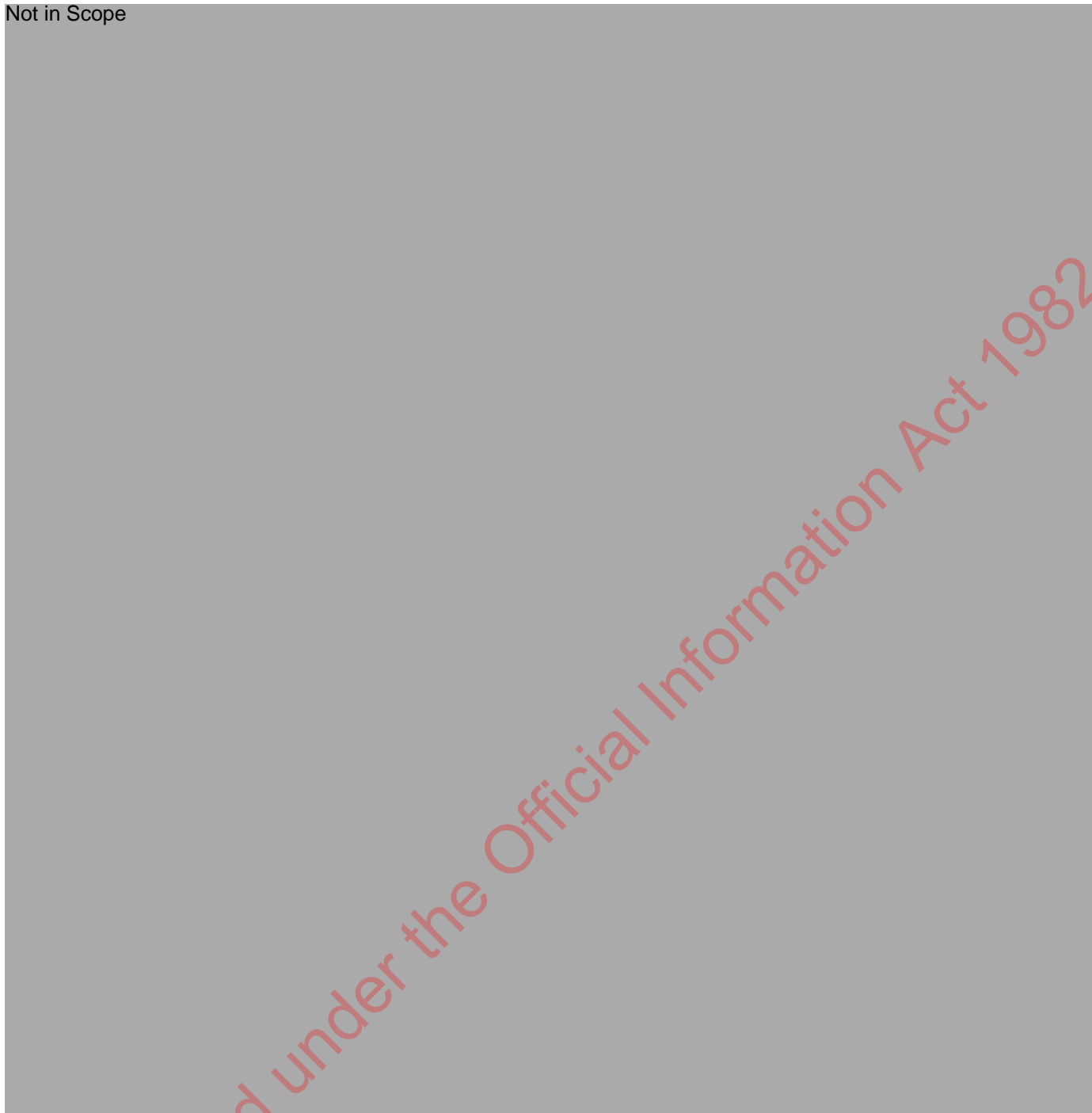
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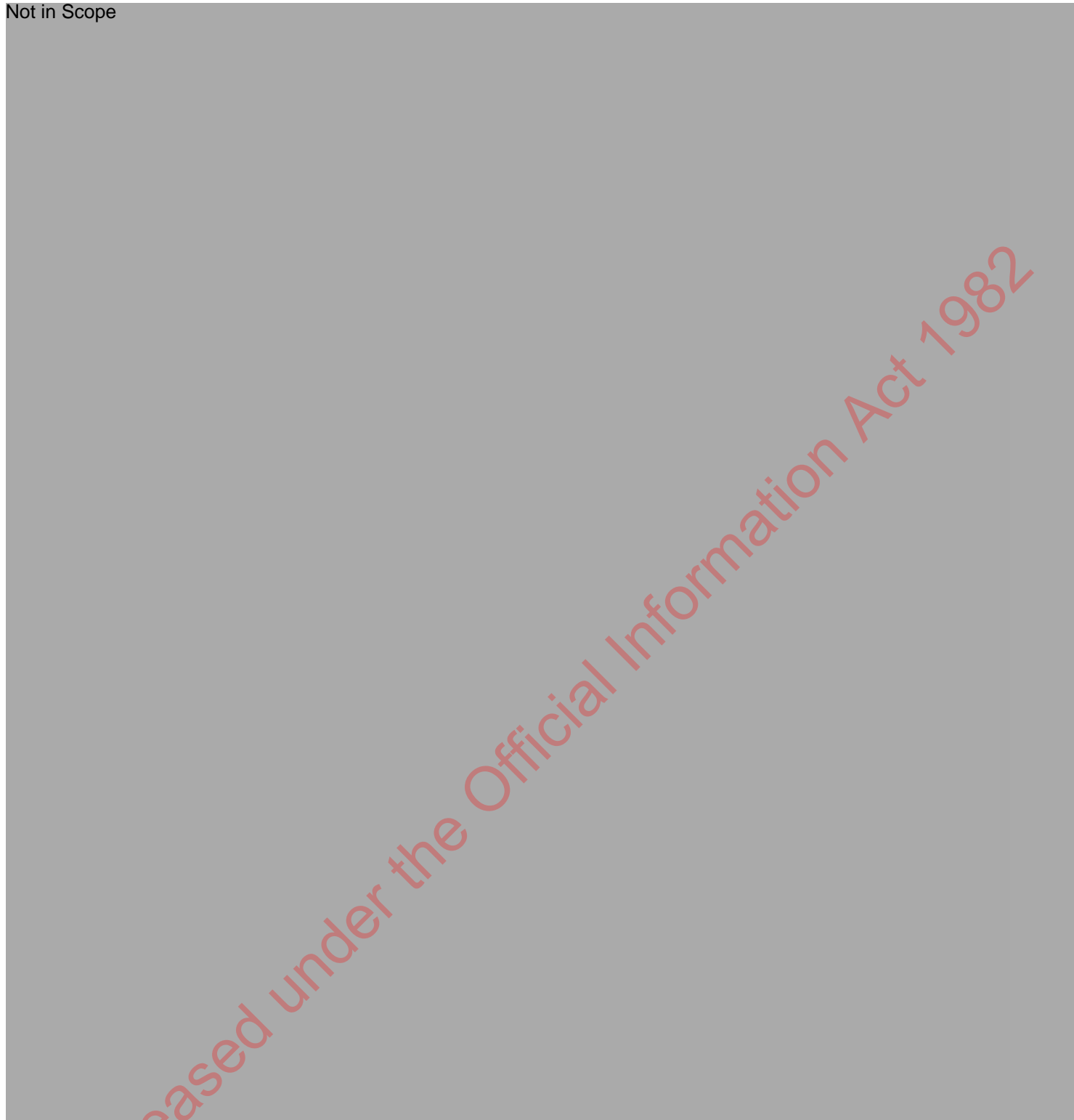


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Not in Scope



Not in Scope



Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Attachments:	Title	Security classification
Attachment A:	s9(2)(g)(i)	
Attachment B:	Not in Scope	

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Office of the Prime Minister

To: Coalition Leadership and Target Lead Ministers

Government Targets Quarterly Report for September 2024

Not in Scope



Rt Hon Christopher Luxon

Prime Minister

Attachment A: Government Targets Quarterly Report Summary and Fact Sheets for September 2024

[Attachment A has been refused under s18(d) of the Act as the Government Targets Quarterly Report Summary and Fact Sheets for September 2024 are available on the DPMC website at: www.dPMC.govt.nz/publications/government-targets-quarterly-reports-september-2024]

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TARGET

5

Fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit

50,000 fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit.


LEAD MINISTER

Hon Louise Upston, Minister for Social Development and Employment

LEAD AGENCY

Ministry of Social Development, Secretary for Social Development, Debbie Power

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 2024

Target	Baseline (December 2023)	Current (September 2024)	Status
50k reduction (140k people)	190,000	204,800	 At Risk

PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET

Total number of people on the Jobseeker Support benefit



TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS

The Government is committed to restoring economic stability and enhancing prosperity by implementing policies focused on promoting economic growth and employment, improving Government spending and regulation, and lowering the cost of living.

Economic conditions have continued to increase flows of people onto Jobseeker Support which has seen an increase of 8,000 since the last quarterly report. We expect these flows to decrease when economic conditions improve, which will reduce pressure on the welfare system, and when welfare system interventions are embedded.

The Government is advancing a comprehensive package of reforms to shift more people off Jobseeker Support and into employment. Key actions include:

- **Resetting expectations and obligations of Jobseekers** including a new Traffic Light System to inform people what is required of them to continue receiving a benefit. This has resulted in sanctions increasing by 14,000 across the quarter, an increase of 8,000 compared to the same period in 2023.
- **More exits** – the number of people who exited Jobseeker Support into employment has increased by ~2,500 (or 18%) compared to the same quarter last year.
- **Increased client engagement and activation** with 2,100 new places for youth Jobseeker Support clients in Year 1 of Welfare that Works, a reset of case management caseloads to ensure more Jobseekers get case management, the introduction of phone-based case management increasing overall case management capacity to 70,000 by the end of the year, and the introduction of more regular work check-in seminars.
- **Delivering an employment investment framework.**

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

For the Ministry of Social Development’s Income Support Reporting go to www.msd.govt.nz

For information on the Government Targets go to www.dpmc.govt.nz

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TARGET

5

Fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit

50,000 fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit.

LEAD MINISTER
Hon Louise Upston, Minister for Social Development and Employment

LEAD AGENCY
Ministry of Social Development,
 Secretary for Social Development,
 Debbie Power

ITEM 4

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 2024

Target	Baseline (December 2023)	Current (September 2024)	Status
50k reduction (140k people)	190,000	204,800	At Risk

PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET

Total number of people on the Jobseeker Support benefit



TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS

The Government is advancing a comprehensive package of reforms to shift more people off Jobseeker Support and into employment, including preparing Jobseekers for when economic conditions improve.

The Government is focused on improving the economic prosperity for all New Zealanders and:

- **Resetting expectations and obligations of Jobseekers** including a new Traffic Light System to inform people what is required of them to continue receiving a benefit. This has resulted in sanctions increasing by 14,000 across the quarter, an increase of 8,000 compared to the same period in 2023.
- **Welfare that Works and community coaches** - Year 1 of Welfare that Works will be starting with 2,100 places for youth Jobseeker Support clients.
- **Resetting case management caseloads** to ensure more Jobseekers get case managers, including a new over-the-phone service for those under 25 years of age. There will be increased in case management to 70,000 by the end of the year.
- **Delivering an employment investment framework** to ensure investment is directed to support more people into employment.

Economic conditions continue to increase flows of people onto Jobseeker Support benefit. Improvement is expected when economic conditions improve more dramatically, and welfare system interventions are embedded.

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

For the Ministry of Social Development's Income Support Reporting go to www.msd.govt.nz

For information on the Government Targets go to www.dPMC.govt.nz

TARGET

5


Fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit

50,000 fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit.

LEAD MINISTER
Hon Louise Upston, Minister for Social Development and Employment

LEAD AGENCY
Ministry of Social Development,
 Secretary for Social Development,
 Debbie Power

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 2024

Target	Baseline (December 2023)	Current (December 2024)	Status
50k reduction (140k people)	190,000	213,300	 At Risk

PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET

Total number of people on the Jobseeker Support benefit



TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS

The Government is committed to increasing living standards and opportunities for all New Zealanders. Going For Growth, which sets out the approach the Government is taking to economic growth, was released in February 2025.

The Government is committed to ensuring the welfare system is supporting people who can work into employment. Paid employment offers the best opportunity for people to achieve social and economic well being.

Prolonged economic conditions have continued to increase flows of people onto Jobseeker Support, with an increase of 8,500 since the last quarterly report. This is expected to decrease as economic conditions improve, which will reduce pressure on the welfare system, and as welfare system interventions are embedded in 2025.

The Government is advancing a comprehensive package of reforms . Key actions include:

- **Resetting expectations and obligations of Jobseekers** including a new Traffic Light System to inform people what is required of them to continue receiving a benefit. This has resulted in 13,000 sanctions this quarter, this is 7,600 higher than the same period in 2023.
- **Moving people into work** – the number of people who exited Jobseeker Support into employment has increased by ~3,500 (or 26%) compared to the same quarter last year. Community coaches and support for 2,100 young people are underway.
- **Increased client engagement and activation** with 183,000 more client appointments than in the same quarter in 2023. The introduction of phone-based case management has increased overall case management capacity to 70,000 clients by end of December 2024.
- **Employment investment strategy (2025-2028) will be completed in early 2025.**

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

For the Ministry of Social Development’s Income Support Reporting go to www.msd.govt.nz

For information on the Government Targets go to www.dpmc.govt.nz

Overall results have stabilised over the last quarter:

Not in Scope

s9(2)(f)(iv) and s9(2)(g)(i)

Target Performance

Insights

Actions

Current

Δ Change

Not in Scope

s9(2)(f)(iv) and s9(2)(g)(i)

- Increase of 8,500 since previous report (including +5,000 Health Condition or Disability (JS-HCD)).
- 23,300 behind baseline

213,300
(Dec 2024)

+8,500
(Sep → Dec)

Not in Scope

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Supporting Indicators and Insights

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

s9(2)(g)(i)

Target 5 - Jobseeker

Not in Scope

Not in Scope

The Treasury's economic outlook at HYEPU 2024 is weaker than at BEFU 2024 and indicates significant challenges for Target 5 achievement . An improvement in economic conditions is required to help reach the JS target. **There has been a significant increase in JS-HCD clients**, which now make up 44% of JS recipients. s9(2)(f)(iv)

Not in Scope

Despite economic challenges driving an increase in grants, MSD has been focused on increased activation to improve Jobseeker exits:

- In the last quarter, there were 42,500 grants, and **32,500 exits with over half (17,100) left to enter work.**
- **MSD booked approximately 183,000 more appointments with clients** than the same quarter in 2023. and case management capacity increased to 70,000.
- **Sanctions have almost doubled** - increasing from 7,600 to 13,300 compared to the same quarter last year.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Briefing

Progress on Government Targets for the Quarter ending December 2024

To: Rt Hon Christopher Luxon
Prime Minister

Date	14/02/2025	Priority level:	Medium
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1. Attached is a progress report on Government Targets for the quarter ending December 2024 from the Delivery Unit.
2. Overall performance has stabilised over the last quarter. Not in Scope

Not in Scope

5. Next steps for December 31, 2024 quarterly results are:
 - a. **21 Feb:** Draft Factsheets will be submitted for your approval to release for Ministerial consultation.
 - b. **24 Feb – 3 March:** Ministerial consultation period.
 - c. **10 March:** Publish Factsheets on DPMC website, media release and post-Cab stand-up (exact timing to be agreed with your Press office).

Thank you.

Maari Porter
Chief Advisor
Delivery Unit

Briefing

Progress on Government Targets for the Quarter ending December 2024

To: Rt Hon Christopher Luxon
Prime Minister

Date	14/02/2025	Priority level:	Medium
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- Attached is the latest progress report on Government Targets. The report includes a selection of indicators across the nine Targets that we intend to refine as we develop target / portfolio specific dashboards with you (see below).
- Overall target results have stabilised, and we have a meeting with you on 18 February @ 4:30 to 5:15pm to discuss the latest report.

s9(2)(f)(iv)

Next Steps

- Key dates for release of the latest Target quarterly results are:
 - 21 Feb** - Draft Factsheets submitted for your approval to release for Ministerial consultation
 - 24 Feb to 3 March** - Ministerial consultation
 - 10 March** - Publish Factsheets on DPMC website, media release and post-Cab stand-up (exact timing to be finalised with your Press office)

Thank you.

Maari Porter
Chief Advisor, Delivery Unit

Office of the Prime Minister

To: Coalition Leadership and Target Lead Ministers

Government Targets Quarterly Report for December 2024

Purpose

1 Ministerial consultation on the third quarterly report on Government Targets.

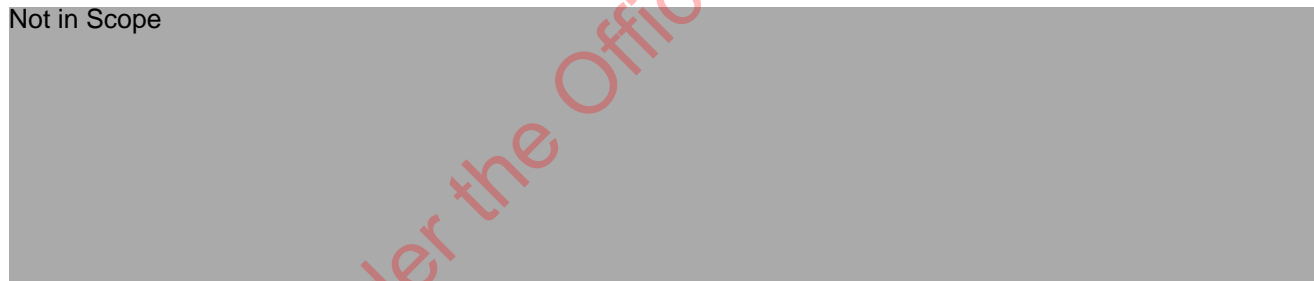
The Fewer People in Emergency Housing Target has been achieved, and overall results have stabilised

Not in Scope



5 Not in Scope Not in Scope Not in Scope
Not in Scope the Jobseeker Support Target remains at risk and is expected to improve as economic conditions improve and as welfare system interventions are embedded in 2025.

Not in Scope



Rt Hon Christopher Luxon

Prime Minister

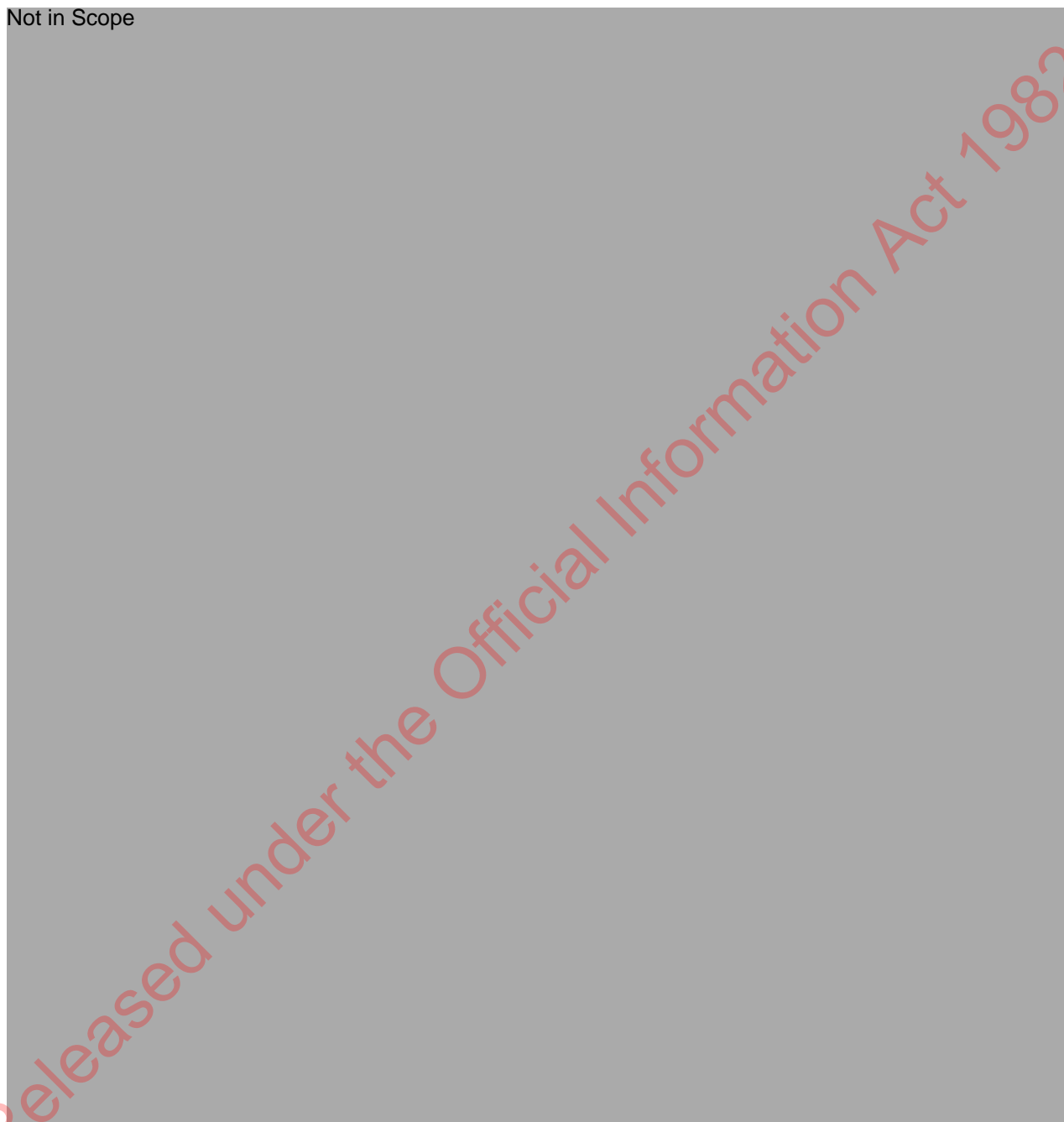
Attachment A: Government Targets Quarterly Report Summary and Fact Sheets for December 2024 **SEE ITEM 8 OF THE PUBLICLY RELEASED MATERIAL IN YOUR REPLY.**

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Office of the Prime Minister
To: Coalition Leadership and Target Lead Ministers

Government Targets Quarterly Report for March 2025

Not in Scope



Rt Hon Christopher Luxon
Prime Minister

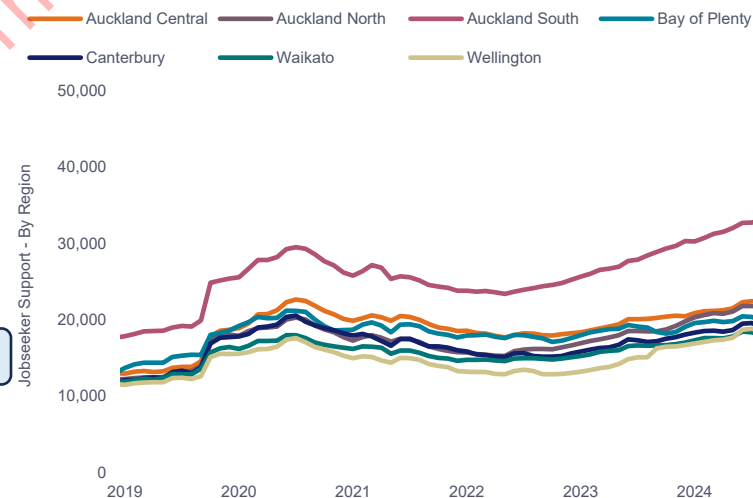
Attachment A: Government Targets Quarterly Report Summary and Fact Sheets
for March 2025 **SEE ITEM 9 OF THE PUBLICLY RELEASED MATERIAL IN
YOUR REPLY.**

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s9(2)(f)(iv) and s9(2)(g)(i)

JS-HCD s9(2)(f)(iv) and s9(2)(g)(i) estimated to reach 101,700 people by June 2029

Auckland South has the highest proportion of JS clients (16%) and increased by 3% over the last quarter



Grants - this quarter there were ~3,900 more grants than the same period in 2024

Exits - this quarter there were 2,800 more exits compared to the same period in 2024

Sanctions have almost doubled - this quarter there were 6,100 more sanctions than in the same period in 2024

