

- *The COVID-19 Short-Term Absence Payment was available between 9 February 2021 and 17 October 2022. It was designed to help businesses pay their employees while they waited for PCR test results. It was a one-off payment of \$359 for each eligible employee and the total paid out was \$xxx as at xxxx.*
- *The COVID-19 Leave Support Scheme (previously called the COVID-19 Essential Workers Leave Support Scheme) was available between 6 April 2020 and 15 August 2023. It was designed to help employers and self-employed people, pay employees who had to self-isolate due to COVID-19 and the total paid was \$xxx as at xxxx.*
- *I also wanted to confirm MSD administered all the above funds? And whether I was missing any other COVID-19 payment schemes administered by MSD. This was implied but not always clear.*

In the financial year ending 30 June 2020, the total amount paid for the COVID-19 Income Relief Payment was \$14.729 million.

In the financial year ending 30 June 2021, the total amount paid for the COVID-19 Income Relief Payment was \$181.665 million.

As at 31 July 2024, the total amount paid for the Short-Term Absence Payment was \$44,528,839.51.

As at 31 July 2024, the total amount paid for the Leave Support Scheme was \$857,743,952.90. These payments comprise Leave Support, Self-Isolation, Leave Support December 2021, Essential Worker and Isolating Care or Sick.

Please note, other COVID-19 schemes were made available as part of the Government's response to COVID-19, but were not administered by the Ministry.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact 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 or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui



General Manager

Ministerial and Executive Services