



08 August 2023

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 11 July 2023. You requested the following:

I would like to know how many individuals cannot file their IR3 for the year ending March 31st 2023 as of the due date 7th July 2023, because they are still waiting for IR to complete tax assessments. It is my understanding that this is a large group this year, who cannot file by the due date despite IR having received all the necessary income and related information.

On 12 July 2023, you clarified your request to:

The number of individuals who are unable to file an IR3 individual tax return for the 2023 tax year by 7 July 2023 because that same individual is waiting for an automatic tax assessment for the 2023 tax year to be completed.

Inland Revenue completes end of year tax assessments for individual taxpayers via either an automatically calculated tax assessment or by individuals filing an IR3 individual income tax return form. Individuals can complete one or the other and cannot have both for the same tax year.

Individuals that only receive income that is taxed at the source, such as salary or wages subject to PAYE, will typically receive an automatic calculation. Individuals who earn untaxed income and meet certain criteria are required to file an IR3 instead of receiving an automatic calculation.

If an individual has an automatic calculation either pending or completed for any given year within the statute time bar of 4 years for amending tax assessments, they are still able to file an IR3 for that year if they wish to do so. The presence of an automatic calculation does not preclude someone from filing an IR3 form.

Therefore, the number of individuals who are unable to file an IR3 individual tax return for the 2023 tax year by 7 July 2023, because they are waiting for an automatic tax assessment for the 2023 tax year to be completed, is nil.

Despite the above, we have identified some cases wherein an individual who was previously an IR3 filer and qualified for an automatic assessment within the 2023 year did not have the relevant information displayed on *myIR* in a timely manner to inform the individual as to the status of their assessment. In such cases, an automatic assessment would generate for the year in question.

If an individual has a pending automatic calculation for any given year, they would not be able to file an IR3 through *myIR* for that same year but would be able to file a paper IR3 or contact Inland Revenue staff to have the automatic calculation reversed to allow an IR3 to be filed online, or continue with the automatic calculation if it is determined that an IR3 is not required.

Individuals who were affected by this issue were still able to file an IR3 via any other channel. We do acknowledge that the correct information not being displayed on *myIR* could cause confusion or uncertainty for individuals who were previously IR3 filers and are determining the required measures to be put in place to prevent this from reoccurring.

Publishing of OIA response

Please note that Inland Revenue regularly publishes responses to requests that may be of interest to the wider public on its website. We consider this response is of public interest so will publish this response in due course. Your personal details or any information that would identify you will be removed prior to it being published.

Thank you for your request. I trust that the information provided is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Robertson
Project Manager, Individuals Customer Segment