



Micro Business and Not for Profit

Takapuna
507 Byron Avenue
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Takapuna 0622
New Zealand

T. 09 984 1017

12 October 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 14 September 2021. You requested the following:

Many thanks for sending through the attached information in response to an OIA request. I would like to request clarification of just one thing please. With regard to question one – are you able to split out the amount of the write-offs that comprise tax, and the amount that is penalties and/or interest?

By April 2020, as part of Inland Revenue's Business Transformation programme, all tax and social policy products (except child support) were moved into the new tax and revenue system, START. This new system allows us to identify which portion of the write off (broken down by insolvency, uneconomical to pursue and serious hardship write offs) is allocated to interest, penalty, or core tax but we are unable to do that with data that was transferred from the old system.

As such, I must refuse your request for the breakdown of write offs for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information in the specific breakdown you requested does not exist.

The data you have requested for the 2019/20 Financial year is in the table below.

	Insolvency write-offs (Includes liquidation and bankruptcy) (\$m)	Uneconomic to pursue (\$m)	Serious Hardship (\$m)
Interest	17.4	6.3	3.9
Other	5.0	1.7	1.2
Penalty	28.5	8.3	5.2
Tax	63.4	15.3	26.7
Total	114.3	31.6	37.0

Please note, due to the change in systems, the totals from our previous response and this one does not match up. This data also excludes write-offs for Child Support, Student Loan accounts, legal costs and goods sold in satisfaction of debt.

Right of Review

If you disagree with my decision on your OIA request, you can ask an Inland Revenue review officer to review my decision. To ask for an internal review, please email the Commissioner of Inland Revenue at: CommissionersCorrespondence@ird.govt.nz.

Ref: 22OIA1265

Alternatively, under section 28(3) of the OIA, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision. You can contact the office of the Ombudsman by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

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

Yours sincerely



Richard Philp
Customer Segment Leader, Micro business