



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

07 AUG 2020

Dear

On 13 July 2020, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

I understand from recent discussions with several district council executive staff members that a request for proposals for projects in the regions as part of the COVID-19 recovery effort included a requirement for the proposals to include social recovery elements. An example would be how many jobs the project would create for those who lost employment due to the outbreak. I'm writing to see whether MSD has those elements/criteria/framework and, if so, whether it can be shared with me, please? Or if MSD doesn't have it, whether you'd be able to direct me to the ministry that does.

The Ministry has interpreted your request to be in relation to the Mayors Taskforce For Jobs (MTFJ) Community Recovery Programme. This is a partnership between Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) and the Ministry. Funding was approved for this programme in the 2020/2021 Budget.

The partnership is helping New Zealand's 23 rural councils to assist small to medium sized businesses with recruitment, training and subsidies, and to help them take on young workers or people who have been displaced due to the impact of the COVID-19 crisis.

More information concerning MTFJ is available on the MTFJ website at the following link: www.mayorstaskforceforjobs.co.nz/.

The following document has been identified as being in scope of your request and is attached to this response:

- Proposal Template – *Mayor's Taskforce For Jobs – Community Recovery Programme*, dated May 2020

Please note that this document has been developed for the purpose of assisting the rural councils in making proposals to LGNZ for the funding provided by the Ministry.

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The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachments on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

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 this response regarding the Community Recovery Programme facilitated by MTFJ, 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.

Yours sincerely



Kay Read
Group General Manager
Client Service Delivery



Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs – Community Recovery

Background

The purpose of this proposal is to provide MTFJ and MSD with a basic plan of how your Council will utilise partnership funding of up to \$500,000 (GST Exclusive) to deliver sustainable employment for 50 people who are NEETS and/or have been displaced from their employment under Covid-19, to June 30, 2021. \$250,000 will be paid to the council once the proposal is accepted, where the remaining \$250,000 can be targeted as demand is needed. This is to ensure that we can maximum the funding and if it is indicated that smaller councils will not use all of the allocated funding, MTFJ and MSD will look at the potential to support other councils who have been greatly impacted by Covid in a targeted way.

For the Community Recovery Programme, sustainable employment outcomes are the target. However all employment outcomes should be monitored, including casual, part-time or permanent.

This initiative is to provide each Council with funding for:

- 1) Funding assistance directly for small to medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to support with recruitment, training, wage subsidy support for at risk youth or initiatives that will enable employment (supporting SMEs with transport costs, for example, including transport suitable for physical distancing).
- 2) The employment of a local coordinator, which conducts support for youth to be retained or placed into employment

The following proposal will need the support of the MSD Regional Commissioners to be considered for funding. Once submitted, this proposal will be shared with the Regional Commissioners for their approval.



Questions

1 Who will be the Council contact for the delivery of this programme?

Mayor's will lead this at a partnership level, but it will be important we have a key contact to coordinate the release of funding and reporting requirements.

Council Name:			
Contact Name and Role:			
Email Address:		Telephone:	

1. What is your council's current capability and capacity to support employment?

- *Please reference the employer networks you currently work with or those you have identified and an indication of demand if known, including Maori business networks or businesses*
- *Please provide current staffing and/or identify your staffing requirements (appreciating that the pilot may need to utilise existing staff or limited part-time staff initially)*
- *Please include how you plan to monitor and support those you have employed, including employer engagement*

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2. How will you deliver employment support for NEET's as a priority group who are disadvantaged in the labour market?

- *Please reference community groups that you engage with for youth, including Iwi partners*
- *Please provide support from employer's who engage with these groups or who are prepared to do so for employment.*

3. How will your council apportion the funding?

The funding under our partnership is mainly targeted at support for SME employers to assist with employment related costs that you will pay directly to employers. This funding assistance could include

- *Entry-level training (including paying for compliance-based training, like Site Safe, or licences provided by the employer)*
- *Wage-based incentives (including lump sum payments for at risk individuals, to help offset initial employment costs or support costs (for example \$2,000 at one month)*
- *Initiatives that will enable employment (the employer assisting with transport costs, for example, including transport suitable for physical distancing etc).*

The funding can also support the provision of a local coordinator to support NEETs to be retained or placed into employment.

In each case it will be important to secure employment opportunities prior to employment.



4. Please let us know if there are specific local MSD representatives that you will be working with

Contact Name and Role:			
Email Address:		Telephone:	

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