



04 MAR 2021

On 31 December 2020, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

A breakdown of the number and value (\$) of Special Needs Grants (SNGs) issued by the Wairarapa Community Link for the quarter ending 31 December 2020. Can this be provided per SNG Category.

On 12 February, the Ministry contacted you in regard to extending the due date of your request to 4 March 2021. The reason for the extension was due to more time being necessary for consultation to respond to this request.

Please find **Table One** enclosed, which shows the number and amount of SNGs approved at the Wairarapa Community Link Service Centre during the period 01 October 2020 to 31 December 2020.

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

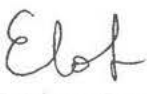
- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

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 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, 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

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Bridget Saunders
Manager
Issue Resolution Service Delivery

Table One: The number and amount of Special Needs Grants approved at the Wairarapa Community Link Service Centre during the period 01 October 2020 to 31 December 2020.

Need Reason	Number	Amount
Dental Treatment	78	\$20,998.26
Drivers Licence (New and Renewal)	27	\$2,674.90
Emergency Housing	27	\$34,581.00
Emergency Medical Treatment (Fees and Prescription Charges)	12	\$1,416.59
Food	447	\$44,854.08
Health Travel Costs Client Only (Non-Recoverable and Recoverable)	12	\$950.00
Housing Support Products (HSP) (Rent Arrears and Bond grant)	18	\$17,160.55
Transfer to NZ Super	3	\$1,320.61
Other	15	\$4,233.77
Other Emergency Grants	15	\$2,691.82
Total	654	\$130,881.58

Notes:

- To protect confidentiality, the Ministry of Social Development uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data.
- These data tables have had random rounding to base three applied to all cell counts in the table.
- A value of one or two may be rounded to zero or three.
- The impact of applying random rounding is that columns and rows may not add exactly to the given column or row totals.
- The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.
- This is a count of grants not a count of clients. Clients may have multiple grants in a period.
- The amount granted may not be the same as the amount spent.
- Service centre is based on the Work and Income site where the recommending case manager for the application was based at the time of the grant.
- Reason "Other" includes:
 - Bedding SNG
 - Health and travel costs with attendant (Non-Recoverable)
 - NET Payment
 - Re-establishment Sole Parent (other)
 - Sole Parent Study Assistance
 - Steps to freedom