



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

11 NOV 2016

Dear

On 19 September 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting information regarding funding in Marlborough.

For the sake of clarity, I have responded to each of your questions in turn.

- *How much funding does the Ministry of Social Development provide to social agencies in Marlborough?*

You will find enclosed a table showing the amount of funding in the Marlborough area from financial years 2009/10 to 2016/17. You will note that the table has been split into the funding which is regionally targeted and nationally targeted. The regionally targeted funding is that which is targeted to the Marlborough area. Nationally targeted funding is also included in this report. As this funding is allocated nationally, it is accessible to all New Zealanders.

- *Has this figure increased or decreased in the last eight years?*
- *What services have MSD stopped or reduced their funding for in Marlborough over the last four years?*

You will see in the table enclosed, that since the 2009/10 financial year, the Ministry of Social Development funding in the Marlborough area showed a steady increase with the exception of three financial years, 2012/13, 2015/16 and 2016/17.

Please note that Community Response Fund (CRF) funding ended in 2011/12. The CRF was established in 2009, for an initial period of two years, as the Government's response to the impact of the global economic crisis on NGOs ability to provide critical social services.

The CRF was designed as a short-term, time limited response to address immediate cost and demand pressures. Community organisations could apply for the CRF when they were in severe financial difficulty, or were experiencing an increased demand for their services as a result of the economic downturn. Continuing demand meant that CRF funding was extended for a further year and ended in 2011/12.

From April 2014, the Settling In programme was transferred from the Ministry to the Office of Ethnic Affairs (OEA) in the Department of Internal Affairs, enabling closer

sharing of capabilities and more effective targeting of services to areas where they are most needed.

Capability Investment Resource (CIR) grant funding ended in 2014/15. The Capability Investment Resource was a \$31.65 million resource distributed over four years (from 2012/13) to support a stronger, more adaptable and more integrated social sector. More information is available on the Ministry's website at [www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/work-programmes/community-investment-strategy/capability-investment-resource.html](http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/work-programmes/community-investment-strategy/capability-investment-resource.html).

Te Punanga Haumarū grant funding ended in 2014/15 and funding was reprioritised to Vote Māori Development to support Whānau Ora.

As a result of the planned shift from Budget Services to Building Financial Capability services on 1 November 2016, current Budget Services providers have received 2016/17 funding pro-rated for four months based on their 2015/16 funding levels. More information is available on the Ministry's website at [www.familyservices.govt.nz/about-funding/budgeting-services-funding/index.html](http://www.familyservices.govt.nz/about-funding/budgeting-services-funding/index.html).

The Outward Bound contract was reduced nationally and retargeted to focus on clients with a health condition only.

From 14 April 2014 the Ministry took responsibility for managing social housing assessments and the calculation of Income-Related Rent (IRR) for tenants and the payment of the Income-Related Rent Subsidy to housing providers. With a view to creating a level playing field for all social housing providers, the Government opened up the payment of Income-Related Rent subsidy to non-government providers such as community housing providers and non-government organisations.

This transfer of functions with the extension of the Income Related Rent Subsidy (IRRS), including Housing New Zealand, has shown new Service Delivery social housing funding from the later part of 2013/14 and outyears.

Those changes are part of a wider programme of reform to improve the diversity of social housing in New Zealand, and ensure social housing is available to those most in need, for the duration of their need. Budget 2016 invested \$258 million to ensure that people most in need of social housing have access to this essential service.

You will note a small decrease in regional services for the 2016/17 financial year due to regional budget reductions.

- *Social agencies in the region say they are not receiving enough funding to cope with increased demand for services, what would it take for MSD to increase their funding?*

The Ministry purchases services from non-government providers each year including around \$320 million in services to support New Zealand's most vulnerable children, young people and adults. Through the implementation of the Community Investment Strategy the Ministry is taking a social investment approach to ensure that its investment in social services is targeted towards effective and evidence-based services that can best meet the needs of and improve results for, New Zealand's most vulnerable people.

The Ministry is progressively aligning investment where it's needed, and reallocating funding accordingly. As this happens, some regions will attract more funding than they have previously, if there has been under investment relative to the rest of the country. Other future increases in funding would have to come from increases in government investment through the Budget process. As an example, there is work underway within the Ministry to respond to the recommendations of the Expert Advisory Panel regarding the overall level of investment in vulnerable children.

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 after ten working days. 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](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Maree Roberts  
**Associate Deputy Chief Executive, Community Investment**

**Table One: The amount of funding provided in the Marlborough Area in the financial years 2009/10 to 2016/17**

<b>Service Type</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>
<b>Regionally Targeted Total</b>	\$2,516,684	\$2,765,475	\$3,086,004	\$2,635,286	\$3,517,553	\$2,959,353	\$2,922,913	\$2,879,449
<b>Nationally Targeted Total</b>	\$2,081,889	\$1,974,234	\$1,821,721	\$1,805,428	\$2,348,040	\$5,641,110	\$5,638,162	\$5,614,771
<b>Grant Total</b>	\$4,598,573	\$4,739,708	\$4,907,725	\$4,440,714	\$5,865,593	\$8,600,463	\$8,561,075	\$8,494,220

**Notes**

This report captures information as of 20 September 2016. It contains what has been planned (2016/17) and contracted (prior financial years) up to date. Funding in the current year is still subject to contracting and may alter. Please note that this report contains nationally and regionally targeted services in the specified area. When a service is targeted at a larger area than the specified area the funding is apportioned on the population statistics to provide an estimate of the proportion of funding in the specified area. In such cases actual service delivered and the funding available to the specified area is not known.