



09 AUG 2017

Dear

On 9 July 2017, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *How many MSD providers nation wide offer vocational training services for people with disabilities.*

Nationally there are currently 168 providers who have an Active or Under Offer contract with the Ministry, who provide vocational services for people with disabilities. An Under Offer contract is a contract offered to an existing provider which is yet to be returned.

The following types of vocational services are offered by these providers which may include a training component:

- Community Participation services contribute towards disabled people having a good life, in everyday places, as others do at similar stages of life. This enables disabled people to participate in and make a positive contribution to their communities. These services also play a role in helping to build welcoming communities and mainstream services and form employers' confidence in employing disabled people.
- The Employment Service (the Service) supports clients with a disability or health condition to gain sustainable employment and move closer to financial independence. This is achieved through the provision of employment-related case management, placement into open and inclusive employment, and any required post-placement support aligned with the client's Individual Employment Plan. The Service is intended to focus on assisting clients to find or return to sustainable employment as quickly as possible.
- The Business Enterprise services provide individually-tailored support to people to participate in employment where wages are paid under a current Minimum Wage Exemption, granted by a Labour Inspector from the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE). This service enables people to contribute to their communities in ways valued by them and their communities, learn new skills to help them manage their lives and overall well-being, and to participate in their communities by maintaining and developing social and support networks.

- Transition Services provides the uninterrupted movement of students in their last year of school into post-school education, employment and/or community services and activities, to ensure that there is a co-ordinated plan implemented to assist the student with achieving their transition goals.
- Very High Needs Services engage with people who have a broad range of abilities and aspirations. An individual plan is developed for realising the person's goals and the provider will facilitate and support the client to participate in their communities in ways that are meaningful to them, and enhance their quality of life.

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

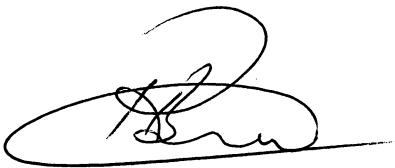
- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public shortly. 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).

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding vocational service providers, 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Ruth Bound  
**Deputy Chief Executive, Service Delivery**