



20 September 2022

Tēnā koe

On 25 August 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Could you please provide a breakdown of the number and value (\$) of Special Needs Grants (SNGs) issued by the Wairarapa Community Link for the quarter ending 30 June 2022?*

Please see **Appendix One** containing **Table One**, which shows the number and amount granted for Special Needs Grants from the Wairarapa Service Centre for the period 1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022, broken down by need reason.

You will note some of your requested need reasons do not appear in the table. This is because the Ministry did not receive any applications under that need reason category during the quarter.

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'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 SNGs issued by the Wairarapa Community Link, 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.

Ngā mihi nui

*Bridget Saunders*

Bridget Saunders  
**Manager Issue Resolution**  
**Service Delivery**

## Appendix One

**Table One:** The number and amount granted for Special Needs Grants from the Wairarapa Service Centre, for the period 1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022, broken down by need reason.

<b>Need Reason</b>	<b>Grants</b>	<b>Amount Granted</b>
<b>Dental Treatment</b>	90	\$24,054.58
<b>Drivers Licence (New &amp; renewal)</b>	21	\$1,830.70
<b>Emergency Housing</b>	6	\$5,285.00
<b>Emergency Medical Treatment (fees &amp; prescription charges)</b>	9	\$565.00
<b>Food</b>	603	\$68,630.44
<b>Health Travel Costs Client Only (Recoverable &amp; Non-Recoverable)</b>	15	\$1,510.00
<b>Housing Support Products (rent arrears and bond grants)</b>	3	\$2,697.81
<b>Other Emergency Grants</b>	6	\$2,361.41
<b>Assistance during an initial stand down and/or application process</b>	6	\$1,167.53
<b>Bedding</b>	9	\$1,046.00
<b>HSP Bond Grant</b>	9	\$14,760.00
<b>Steps to freedom</b>	3	\$692.50
<b>Student Allowance Transfer Grant</b>	3	\$440.96
<b>Other</b>	24	\$11,468.69
<b>Wigs and Hairpieces</b>	0	\$300.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>\$136,810.62</b>

### Notes for Table:

- This is a count of grants not clients. A client may have multiple grants in a period.
- The amount granted may not be the same as the amount spent.
- The Service Centre is based on the Work and Income site where the recommending Case Manager for the grant was based at the time of the grant.
- The 'Other' category includes Re-establishment Refugee grants.

- To protect confidentiality the Ministry 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.
- 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.
- A value of one or two may be rounded to zero or three.